THE EDINBURGH MAGAZINE, OR *LITERARY MISCELLANY*, FOR *FEBRUARY* 1802;

With a View of PENCROSS CASTLE, *and* ISLAND *of* ARRAN; *From a Drawing taken on the Spot by* Mr DENHOLM *of Glasgow.*

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State

VIEW of PENCROSS CASTLE and ISLAND of ARRAN.

State of the BAROMETER, in inches and decimals, and of Farenheit's THERMOMETER in the open air, taken in the morning before sun-rise, and at noon; and the quantity of rain-water fallen in inches and decimals, from January 26. to Feb. 25. 1802, in the vicinity of Edinburgh.

1802.	Barom.	Thermom.		Rain.	Weather.
Jan.		M	N.	In. Pts.	
26	29.32	45	49	0.191	Rain
27	30.61	38	42	——	Clear
28	29.741	49	49	0.161	Rain
29	29.81	40	41	0.185	Ditto
30	29.657	37	45	——	Cloudy
31	29.501	40	46	0.05	Rain
Feb. 1	29.99	40	45	——	Clear
2	29.21	36	43	——	Ditto
3	29.25	36	42	0.041	Snow
4	28.811	36	42	0.111	Rain
5	29.5	36	37	——	Clear
6	29.31	38	38	0.211	Rain
7	29.85	30	42	——	Clear
8	29.411	38	38	0.041	Rain
9	29.32	32	36	0.055	Snow
10	29.465	32	40	0.02	Ditto
11	29.55	32	40	——	Clear
12	30.31	28	39	——	Ditto
13	30.05	34	42	0.0511	Showers
14	30.07	31	41	——	Clear
15	29.71	35	38	0.0231	Snow
16	29.33	29	41	——	Cloudy
17	29.1	35	41	——	Ditto
18	29.099	36	38	0.041	Rain
19	29.305	28	35	1.071	Snow
20	29.055	38	46	——	Clear
21	29.23	41	45	0.0651	Showers
22	29.375	43	49	——	Cloudy
23	29.671	40	48	0.211	Rain
24	29.65	39	38	0.051	Ditto
25	29.051	38	45	0.8015	

Quantity of Rain 2.3798

High Water at LEITH, for MARCH 1802.

	Morn.	Even.
Days.	H. M.	H. M.
M. 1.	0 14	0 47
T. 2.	1 16	1 42
W. 3.	2 4	2 24
Th. 4.	4 42	2 59
Fr. 5.	3 16	3 32
Sa. 6.	3 48	4 4
Su. 7.	4 21	4 40
M. 8.	5 0	5 22
T. 9.	5 44	6 7
W. 10.	6 32	6 59
Th. 11.	7 30	8 6
Fr. 12.	8 44	9 24
Sa. 13.	10 4	10 43
Su. 14.	11 17	11 45
M. 15.	— —	0 10
T. 16.	0 33	0 55
W. 17.	1 15	1 32
Th. 18.	1 49	2 6
Fr. 19.	2 23	2 39
Sa. 20.	2 55	3 10
Su. 21.	3 26	3 43
M. 22.	4 0	4 17
T. 23.	4 34	4 52
W. 24.	5 13	5 35
Th. 25.	5 58	6 24
Fr. 26.	6 52	7 25
Sa. 27.	8 5	8 54
Su. 28.	9 47	10 37
M. 29.	11 25	— —
T. 30.	0 4	0 36
W. 31.	1 2	1 25

MOON.

	D. H. M.	
New Moon	4 4 42	Morn.
First Qrtr.	11 6 11	Morn.
Full Moon,	19 11 2	Morn.
Last Qrtr.	26 10 54	Even.

March 11. Court of Session rises.

THE

THE EDINBURGH MAGAZINE, OR LITERARY MISCELLANY FOR *FEBRUARY* 1802.

DESCRIPTION OF THE VIEW.

PORTENCROSS, or, as it is more commonly termed, Pencroſs Caſtle, is ſituated upon the coaſt of the Firth of Clyde, in the pariſh of Weſt Kilbride and county of Air, at the diſtance of about two miles from the village of Fairlie.

The Caſtle is built upon a rock jutting into the ſea, which almoſt continually laſhes its walls, eſpecially in a ſouth-weſt wind, which brings a heavy ſwell from the Atlantic.

That it is of great antiquity admits of little doubt, though there is no record or tradition which mentions the time of its erection. Mr Hunter of Hunterſton has, however, in his poſſeſſion, a charter of ſeiſin granted by Robert the II. in the year 1347, being the 4th of his reign, veſting that family in certain lands, which appears to be ſubſcribed at this caſtle by that monarch, and ſeveral of the nobles compoſing his court, ſo that, from this fact, we are certain of its being erected before this laſt-mentioned period.

It is alſo from this circumſtance conjectured to have been a royal hunting ſeat, to which the Scottiſh monarch and his retinue, ſometimes reſorted to enjoy the ſports of the field, or the amuſement of fiſhing. Neither is it thought improbable that this was the very ſituation from which, in ancient times, the religious Scots took ſhipping to the iſland of Iona, the ſeat of the Culdees.—Indeed, if if we pay attention to its ſituation, to the moſt likely derivation of the name *, and to the veſtiges of an ancient road leading thither from the capital to this very ſpot, it is not altogether improbable that this might have been the caſe †.

But what renders Pencroſs Caſtle more particularly remarkable, is the loſs of one of the veſſels which compoſed the Spaniſh Armada in the year 1588.—This veſſel having eſcaped, alongſt with ſome others, after the victory gained by the Engliſh fleet, proceeded homewards north about; but being overtaken by a ſtorm, ſhe drifted up the firth of Clyde, and from ſome cauſe, which cannot now be aſſigned, ſunk in about ten fathom water, at no great diſtance from the caſtle. An attempt was made, about 50 years ago, by means of a diving machine, to examine her ſituation, and whether it was poſſible to weigh her up, or to recover what was moſt valuable belonging to her. The diver reported, that from the ſize of her guns, ſhe appeared to be a capital ſhip, and a very large cheſt was perceived fixed upon deck. The operation ſucceeded ſo far, that ſome fine braſs guns were brought up, and an iron one, which laſt ſtill lies upon the beach, of the exact form, and in the ſituation repreſented in the plate.—This piece of ordnance has under-

* Porteus Crucis.

† The rout to Iona from Pencroſs would lye acroſs the frith, the Iſlond of Arran and Iſthmus of Cantire.

undergone many inſpections, and various opinions have been formed about the weight of its ſhot; to judge from its calibre, it ſeems to have been a 14 or 16 pounder.

A ſecond attempt was to have been made, with a new and more complete apparatus, when, it is probable, much more of the wreck would have been recovered, but the death of one of the undertakers unfortunately put an end to the ſcheme.

In the immediate neighbourhood of Pencroſs, are ſome moſt beautiful and lofty rocks, particularly thoſe called the Three Siſters, between 2 and 300 feet in height, which ſeem deſigned as a barrier to the fury of the ocean; they are ſkirted with copſewood, ivy, and many other plants, and ſerve as a land-mark to mariners ſailing up the Firth.—The view from the ſummit is extenſive and beautiful, great part of Ayrſhire, the Firth of Clyde, rock of Ailſa, iſlands of Arran, Cumbrays, and Bute, as well as the diſtant hills of Renfrewſhire and Argyllſhire, appear extended before the eye.—Some part of theſe three laſt-mentſoned iſlands appear in the plate annexed.

J. D.

To the Editor of the Edinburgh Magazine.

AUTHENTIC ACCOUNT OF SIR WILLIAM PURVES OF WOODHOUSELEE.

SIR,

IN the firſt article of your Magazine for January, I obſerve a paper which contains a variety of aſſertions and remarks reſpecting my progenitor, Sir William Purves of Woodhouſelee, Baronet, which I cannot allow to paſs without ſome obſervation.

The writer quotes a paſſage from the *Critical Remarks* prefixed to the laſt edition of the Works of Allan Ramſay, bearing that the Sir *William Worthy*, deſcribed by the poet, was "Sir William Purves of Woodhouſelee, whoſe eſtate was forfeited by "the Protector for his adherence to "the royal cauſe, and who regained "it at the reſtoration, and was appointed King's Solicitor;" and, the writer immediately adds, "In "anſwer to theſe unqualified aſſertions, it might have been ſufficient "to have noticed, that they are altogether unſupported, even by a ſhadow of evidence, direct or circumſtantiate, that Ramſay ever was at "this *ancient tower*; which, it is believed did not exiſt in his day *: "that he was in any ſhape connected "with Sir William Purves, or was "in the ſlighteſt degree acquainted "with any of his family. On the "contrary, however loyal or reſpectable this Gentleman may have "been in public or private life; as "there was nothing peculiar in his "hiſtory or character, to render him "conſpicuous to poſterity, or preſerve him in the memory of any "but his friends, the preſumption "is ſupported by every appearance "of probability, that he was altogether unknown to the poet."

Now, Sir, I would aſk the writer of this paper, in the firſt place, what he means by terming the facts of Sir William Purves's eſtate being forfeited for his adherence to the royal cauſe, his regaining it at the reſtoration, and being appointed King's Solicitor, "*unqualified aſſertions?*" they are, in my opinion, plain matters of fact, which do not admit of qualification, any more than the aſſertions that there exiſted ſuch a man as Sir William Purves, or ſuch a poet as

* The central part of the houſe of Woodhouſelee, is a ſquare tower vaulted beneath one room above another, and is apparently between 2 and 300 years old.

as Allan Ramsay. Does the writer mean to convey a suspicion of the truth of these facts? He does not pretend that, for he mentions himself the Scots Acts of Parliament, as testifying both the forfeiture and the restitution of Sir William's estate; and if he is truly desirous to see upon what grounds, and for what good reasons it was restored to him, I have in my possession, evidence which will satisfy him, that it was on the score of his long and faithful services to the royal cause, and great sufferings upon that account. A memorial which was laid before the King and Parliament, and of which I have an authentic copy, with various other documents, contain a narrative of these services and sufferings. It thence appears, that, from his active loyalty in adhering to his royal master, fighting under his standard, at the battle of Elliot, he had suffered the greatest oppression from the usurper Cromwell, that he had been dispossessed of his estate, his houses plundered and destroyed, his cattle and crops carried off, and himself forced to wander long in disguise, or lie hid in sequestered parts of the country, till after the restoration. In consequence of these notorious facts, he was taken into high favour by King Charles II. had his estate restored; and being a man of great abilities, was judged worthy of the appointment of King's Solicitor, which he held for many years, and discharged with great reputation.

Such, Sir, was the *Sir William Purves of Woodhouselee*, whom your correspondent treats as a person "who had nothing peculiar in his history or character, to render him conspicuous to posterity, or preserve him in the memory of any but his friends;" and who, of consequence, "he presumes, must have been altogether unknown to the poet;" and therefore could not be alluded to in the character of *Sir William Worthy*. Of this probability, your readers will judge. I will only add, that the belief of this allusion is as old as the days of Allan Ramsay himself; who therefore, if utterly unfounded, would probably have contradicted it.

On this subject, I was favoured with the following letter from the very learned and Reverend Dr Walker, now of Collington, and professor of Natural History in the University of Edinburgh:—

"Being settled, when very young, "minister of Glencross, I then found "the memory of Sir William Purves "fresh in the minds of some of the "oldest people in the parish, as being proprietor of the estate and old "tower of Woodhouselee, about the "time of the restoration. This always persuaded me, that he was "Allan Ramsay's Sir William Worthy. The papers you was so good "as to send me render it still more "evident, and these I shall return "carefully to Mr ——. It is said "that he was the King's Solicitor, "soon after the restoration. Of this "you may probably have documents "in your possession, but I shall get "notice of it from the register office, "and perhaps some information concerning the battle of Elliot.

"I knew not of his relation to you "till now; but you have good reason to be fond of his memory, as "an ancestor. He was evidently a "man of the first abilities, of great "prudence and goodness, and behoved therefore, to leave a character behind him, fit to be adopted by Ramsay in his poem. I remain with the greatest respect, Sir, "your most obedient, and most humble servant."

(Signed) JOHN WALKER.

Collington, 30*th Dec.* 1795.

Dr Walker was settled minister of Glencross, or Woodhouselee parish, in 1758, the same year in which Allan Ramsay died.

Having thus done that justice to my

my worthy ancestor, which his merits required and my duty demanded, when unjustly and improperly attacked, I shall enter no further into the above question, which appears to me to be of very little importance to the public. I am, Sir,

Your humble servant,

Edin. 25*th Feb.* 1802. } ALEX. PURVES, *of Purves* *.

For the Edinburgh Magazine.

CELESTIAL PHENOMENA FOR MARCH 1802, WITH SOME ADDITIONAL NOTICES CONCERNING THE NEW PLANET.

IN a paper upon the planet *Piazzi*, published in last Magazine, it was conjectured that it would be situated on the 23d of January, about the beginning of the sign *Libra*. From observations made by Dr Olbers of Bremen, nearly at the same time, it appears that this conjecture was not far from the truth; for the new planet was then situated in right ascension 6^s..7°..11′ and declination 12°..17′ north, not very far from the GEORGIUM SIDUS. The right ascension of these two planets is nearly the same, and the difference of their declinations about 14 degrees, the new planet being situated to the north of the GEORGIUM SIDUS.

About 11 or 12 o'clock in the evening, when it is near the meridian, it may be seen with a telescope magnifying about 80 or 90 times. It is at present situated between *Deneb*, a star of the first magnitude in the *Lion's-tail*, and *Vindemiatrix*, a star of the third magnitude in the northern wing of the Virgin, but a great deal nearer the latter of these stars. It is placed only a few minutes to the westward of *ε Virginis* †, a star of the fifth magnitude, whose longitude is 6^s..2°..43′..45″, and latitude 13°..32′..49″ north: or more accurately, it is situated near the vertex of an equilateral triangle, at the extremities of whose base are the stars ε and *d* Virginis.

Tuesday, March 2*d.*

The planet Mercury will be stationary in longitude 11^s..26°..50′, and latitude 2°..54′ north.

Thursday, March 4*th.*

The sun will suffer an eclipse, but as it is below the horizon about the time of conjunction, it will not be visible at Edinburgh. The time of the true conjunction will be about 42 minutes after 4 o'clock in the morning, in long. 11^s..12°..57′..28″, the moon's latitude being 42′..19″ south. About 12 minutes after 4 o'clock in the morning, the sun will be centrally eclipsed on the meridian, to a point in the *southern ocean*, situated in east longitude 114°..7′..30″, and south latitude 58°..20′.

On the same morning, about 29 minutes and 42 seconds after 2 o'clock, the *second* satellite of Jupiter will suffer an eclipse by immerging into the shadow of the planet.

Saturday, March 6*th.*

At 26 minutes and 32 seconds after 2 o'clock in the morning, the *first* satellite of Jupiter will immerge into his shadow.

Sunday, March 7*th.*

The *first* satellite of Jupiter will immerge into his shadow about 55 minutes and 28 seconds after 8 o'clock in the evening.

Friday, March 12*th.*

The planet MERCURY will arrive at his

* We are obliged to the worthy Baronet for his candid remarks and corrections. The particulars respecting his progenitor, Sir William Purves, were inserted in the article he refers to, on the authority of our correspondent, whose information, from his rank in life and local situation, seemed fully entitled to credit.——*Editor.*

† This Star is marked M by Doppelmayer.

his inferior conjunction with the Sun, at 2 minutes after 8 o'clock in the evening.

Sunday, March 14th.

The Moon will eclipſe *γ Cancri*, a ſtar of the 4th magnitude, whoſe longitude at this time is 4ˢ..4°..46′..15″, and latitude 3°..10′..22″ north. The ſtar will come in contact with the eaſtern or obſcure limb of the Moon at 45 minutes and 13 ſeconds after 11 o'clock in the evening, at which time it is ſituated about 2½ minutes to the ſouth of the Moon's centre. After continuing eclipſed for the ſpace of 1ʰ..9′..52″, it will emerge from behind the weſtern or enlightened limb of the Moon at 55 minutes and 5 ſeconds after 12 o'clock, when the ſtar is ſituated about 4 minutes to the north of her centre. About the middle of this occultation, the enlightened is to the obſcure part of the Moon's diſc as 9.941 to 2.059: The Moon's horizontal parallax 54′..13″: Her horizontal ſemidiameter 14′..48″, and ſhe will come to the meridian about 36 minutes after 8 o'clock in the evening.

On the ſame day, about 26 minutes and 49 ſeconds after 6 o'clock in the evening, the *ſecond* ſatellite of Jupiter will immerge into his ſhadow.

The *firſt* ſatellite of Jupiter will alſo immerge into his ſhadow about 51 minutes and 29 ſeconds after 10 o'clock in the evening.

Tueſday, March 16th.

The Moon will be in conjunction with the planet JUPITER, at 37 minutes after 10 o'clock in the evening, in longitude 4ˢ..27°..47′. The latitude of Jupiter at that time is 1°..16′..30″ north, and his declination 13°..26′ north.

Wedneſday, March 17th.

The MOON will be in conjunction with the planet SATURN about 36 minutes after 7 o'clock in the morning, in longitude 5ˢ..2°..24′. The latitude of Saturn at this time is 1°..54′ north, and he will come to the meridian about 10ʰ..23′.

On the ſame day, about 17 minutes after 11 o'clock in the evening, the planet VENUS, will arrive at her ſuperior conjunction with the Sun.

Friday, March 19th.

The MOON will ſuffer a partial eclipſe, but as ſhe is below the horizon at the time of conjunction, it will not be viſible to the inhabitants of Europe. To the weſtern nations of *America*, and the eaſtern kingdoms of *Aſia*, however, it will be completely viſible. The eclipſe will begin at 36 minutes and 31 ſeconds after 9 o'clock in the morning. The ecliptic conjunction will take place about 2 minutes after 11 o'clock; and the Moon will be quite free of the Earth's ſhadow about 9 minutes and a half after 12 o'clock noon. The Digits eclipſed are 5°..15′ on the Moon's north limb.

On the ſame day, about 40 minutes and 28 ſeconds after 6 o'clock in the evening, the *third* ſatellite of Jupiter will emerge from behind his ſhadow.

Sunday, March 21ſt.

The time of the vernal equinox, or the time when the Sun enters Aries, the firſt ſign of the ecliptic, will be about 22 minutes after 7 o'clock in the morning.

About nine minutes afterwards, the *Moon* will be in conjunction with *Spica*, or *α Virginis*, a ſtar of the firſt magnitude.

On the ſame day, about 5 minutes and 44 ſeconds after 9 o'clock in the evening, the *ſecond* ſatellite of Jupiter will immerge into his ſhadow.

On the ſame evening, about 47 minutes and 50 ſeconds after 12 o'clock, the firſt ſatellite of Jupiter will immerge into his ſhadow.

Tueſday, March 23d.

The firſt ſatellite of Jupiter will immerge into his ſhadow, about 16 minutes and 57 ſeconds after 7 o'clock in the evening.

Friday,

Friday, March 26th.

The GEORGIUM SIDUS will arrive at his oppoſition with the Sun, about 2 minutes after 10 o'clock in the morning. His longitude at that time is 6ˢ..5°..3′..30″; his latitude 45 minutes north; his declination 1°..18′ ſouth, and he comes to the meridian exactly at twelve o'clock midnight.

On the ſame day, the planet MERCURY will be ſtationary in longitude 11ˢ..13°..37′.

On the ſame evening, about 18 minutes and 49 ſeconds after 7 o'clock, the *third* ſatellite of Jupiter will immerge into his ſhadow, and after continuing there for the ſpace of 3ʰ..22′..15″, it will emerge from behind the ſhadow of the planet at 41 minutes and 4 ſeconds after 10 o'clock. A little before the emerſion of this ſatellite, the ſecond is ſituated on the left hand, and the firſt and fourth on the right hand of Jupiter, the fourth being fartheſt from his body.

Saturday, March 28th.

About 44 minutes and 58 ſeconds after 11 o'clock in the evening, the *ſecond* ſatellite of Jupiter will immerge into his ſhadow.

Monday, March 29th.

About three hours after the above immerſion, the *firſt* ſatellite of Jupiter will immerge into his ſhadow, at 44 minutes and 21 ſeconds after 2 o'clock in the morning.

Tueſday, March 30th.

The *firſt* ſatellite of Jupiter will immerge into his ſhadow at 13 minutes and 11 ſeconds after 9 o'clock in the evening.

On the ſame day, about 2 minutes after 10 o'clock in the morning, the MOON will be in conjunction with the planet MARS.

Wedneſday, March 31ſt.

About 10 o'clock in the evening, all the ſatellites of Jupiter are ſituated on the weſtern ſide of his diſc, in the ſame order as they lye in the ſyſtem. The firſt and ſecond being pretty near Jupiter, and the third and fourth at a greater diſtance.

Edin. Geo. Square, Feb. 20th. 1802. } *D. B.*

For the Edinburgh Magazine.

ORIGINAL LETTER FROM BURNS THE POET TO THE EARL OF BUCHAN, WITH A COPY OF "BRUCE'S ADDRESS TO HIS TROOPS AT BANNOCKBURN *."

(Not printed in his works.)

MY LORD,

WILL your Lordſhip allow me to preſent you with the incloſed little compoſition of mine, as a ſmall tribute of gratitude for that acquaintance with which you have been pleaſed to honour me. Independent of my enthuſiaſm as a Scotſman, I have rarely met with any thing in hiſtory which intereſt my feelings as a man, equal with the ſtory of Bannockburn.—On the one hand, a cruel, but able uſurper, leading on the fineſt army in Europe, to extinguiſh the laſt ſpark of freedom among a greatly-daring, and greatly-injured people: on the other hand, the deſperate relics of a gallant nation, devoting themſelves to reſcue their bleeding country, or periſh with her.

Liberty! Thou art a prize truly, and indeed invaluable!—for never canſt thou be too dearly bought!

If my little Ode has the honor of your Lordſhip's approbation, it will gratify my higheſt ambition.

I have the honor to be, my Lord, your Lordſhip's deeply indebted, and moſt devoted humble ſervant,

Dumfries, 12th Jan. 1794. } ROBERT BURNS.

* See Burns's Works, vol. IV. This noble ode was intended by Burns as a ſpecimen of what he meant to perform on "Bruce, a Maſque," in the manner of Alfred, which Lord Buchan had propoſed as a ſubject for his muſe.—*Editor.*

To

To the Editor of the Edinburgh Magazine.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE QUESTION OF THE PERFECTIBILITY OF MAN.

SIR,

I Obſerve, in the numbers of your Magazine of the year 1801, from April to Auguſt inclusive, a diſpute concerning the progreſſional improvement of mankind; in which, as there are many opinions advanced as arguments, particularly by Scoto-Britannus, which I apprehend to be falſe, I have drawn up the following obſervations, and offer them for inſertion in your Magazine.

Your correſpondent, who writes under the ſignature of *A. M.* gives riſe to the controverſy, by ſuggeſting the doctrine under the head "Candle-Light Sketches."—He there gives his opinion on the affirmative ſide of the doctrine; but without entering much at large into the reaſons on which it is founded, he ſuggeſts only a few of thoſe arguments which ſeem beſt calculated to ſtrike upon a ſuperficial reading. It is not my intention to enter regularly into that chain of reaſoning by which the doctrines of perfectibility is ſupported; partly, becauſe I am apprehenſive that ſome of the arguments which I might advance would not gain admiſſion into your Magazine; but chiefly, becauſe it is to be found in another place *, exhibited in the cleareſt manner but as my principal object is to obviate and expoſe whatever I perceive to be falſe and erroneous, I will only, in this place, conſider an opinion advanced by the author of "Candle-Light Sketches," from which I feel myſelf impelled to diſſent: It is that which affirms the *accelerated velocity of improvement*. *A. M* compares the progreſs of philoſophy to the motion of the falling body "*whoſe force is accelerated as it deſcends.*"

Perfectibility, or infinite perfectibility, is not a doctrine which ſuppoſes that man will ever attain to abſolute perfection, or even to the higheſt pitch of perfection of which his nature is capable. It is that which affirms that *there will be no end to his improvement*. When infinite perfectibility then is predicated of man, nothing more is meant, than that he will be continually or indefinitely adding to his improvements. But if man proceeds *without end* in his improvement, and, like the falling body, with *accelerated velocity*, it is evident that he muſt ſome time arrive at abſolute perfection. Now, man's nature is not ſuſceptible of abſolute perfection; conſequently man cannot *continually* proceed in his improvement with *accelerated* velocity. But although it is thus evident that man's progreſs in improvement cannot be at once *accelerated* and *perpetual*; it is far from being improbable that he may advance with increaſing rapidity for a time; nor will he afterwards become ſtationary or retrograde. He will ſtill improve, but with a diminiſhing velocity, which is the only mode by which it is poſſible for him perpetually to improve. I reſerve what I would further obſerve on this ſubject, till I come to that part of Scoto-Britannus's letter, where it muſt neceſſarily be reſumed. The opinion which I have here controverted, is the only one in the obſervations of the author of Candle-Light Sketches, on this ſubject in which I do not moſt decidly agree. I now proceed to the conſideration of Scoto-Britannus's letter.

After the declaration of his opinion, that the infinite perfectibility of the human mind is only a conjecture founded on a falſe eſtimate of human abilities, Scoto-Britannus goes on—"inſtead of concluding that ſcience, "like the falling ſtone, will advance "with

* Principles of Political Juſtice.

" with an accelerated velocity, we " will form our expectations of the " future from our experience of the " paſt, and will rather compare its " progreſs to the moving planet, " which ſometimes advances with an " increaſing velocity, at another " ſtands ſtill, and ſometimes moves " in a retrograde direction."

I have already given my opinion, together with my reaſons in ſupport of it, in oppoſition to that which ſuppoſes that ſcience will advance with a perpetual and increaſing velocity. I am therefore agreed with Scoto-Britannus upon the firſt clauſe of the above propoſition; but if I agree with him on the remaining part, it muſt be with ſome limitations.

It would be by no means reaſonable, nor could we ever arrive at a juſt concluſion, if, in forming " our " expectations of the future, from " our experience of the paſt," we omitted to take into our conſideration all thoſe circumſtances which may affect the future, and which did not exiſt with regard to the paſt. When, therefore, Scoto-Britannus forms his expectations of the future from the paſt, he would do well to take into his conſideration the *invention of Printing*;—a circumſtance which may affect the future, and which did not exiſt with regard to that part of the paſt which is favourable to his argument; for it is only that part of the paſt which exiſted *before* that invention which would ſuit in compariſon with the moving planet. It is ſingular that Scoto-Britannus ſhould have totally overlooked the invention of printing, although it is ſuggeſted by the author of Candle-Light Sketches as the principal ſupport of perfectibility. Before that moſt important of all inventions, the art of printing, the knowledge of mankind was indeed reſted on a very " unſtable foundation," and was ſubject to the viciſſitudes of flux and reflux; then, it might well have been compared to the planet whoſe apparent motion is ſometimes accelerated, ſometimes retrograde, and which ſometimes becomes ſtationary; but *ſince* that auſpicious period, it has continued to advance with a firm, undeviating, and rapid tread, until it has ſhaken the foundations of ſuperſtition and deſpotiſm. And when thoſe monſters which are now ſtruggling againſt the ſtream—thoſe two great props of inequality of property;—when thoſe ſhall be hunted to the remoteſt quarters of the globe, and at laſt baniſhed from the face of the earth, mankind will have *realized* a great and important improvement, *and removed the bar to further progreſs*. Then, as all men will be more equally provided with the means of exiſtence and improvement, knowledge will be more equally diffuſed, and intellectual, andconſequently moral improvement, will ſtill approximate them to an equality, until that happy period arrive, " when ig- " norance ſhall be baniſhed from the " earth, when reaſon ſhall univerſal- " ly prevail, and when *all* men ſhall " become *philoſophers*." Then ſhall mankind enjoy a genuine felicity. And if any man is of opinion that they will there become ſtationary, he will be perhaps moſt eaſily convinced of the contrary, by reflecting what unbounded room there is for reſearches into nature and the univerſe; nor are diſcoveries in that department unconnected with the happineſs of mankind; every new truth which man diſcovers is a valuable acquiſition, and he may go on in diſcovery until he arrive at degrees of perfection of which we are not now capable of forming the moſt diſtant conjecture.

Scoto-Britannus next proceeds to take what he calls a " ſhort view of " the progreſs of philoſophy, and af- " firms, that it affords a ſtrong ar- " gument againſt the doctrine under " review; for," continues he, inſiſting

ing on his former argument, "if it is "philoſophical to form our ideas of "the future from what we know of "the paſt, it is natural to expect "that the ſame viciſſitudes which "have already taken place in ſcience "and philoſophy, ſhall ſtill continue "to influence their progreſs and diſ-"turb the regularity of their ad-"vancement." It is quite philoſophical to form our ideas of the future from what we know of the paſt; and if we do ſo, we will be led to form a very different concluſion from that of Scoto-Britannus, ſince in what we knew of the paſt, there is *one* grand and powerful *cauſe*, beſide ſome ſubordinate ones, to prevent the ſame viciſſitudes which have already taken place in ſcience and philoſophy, from continuing to "marr their pro-"greſs, and diſturb the regularity of "their advancement." This cauſe I have already pointed out, in obviating the ſame argument, and I need not here repeat it. Scoto-Britannus now proceeds to aſk ſome very ſage and gloomy queſtions, which he concludes with the following no leſs ſage remark,—"What is in the womb of "futurity we know not, and that "veil which hides it from mortal "eyes cannot be drawn aſide by hu-"man ingenuity." This is a piece of information for which we are certainly much indebted to Scoto-Britannus: and as ſuch uncommon merit ſhould not go unrewarded, we will, by way of paying part of the debt, inform him, in our turn, that if we cannot *know* "what is in the womb of futurity," we can have probability at leaſt;—and beſides, his remark is as favourable to our ſide of the queſtion as to his.

Were I to take notice of every abſurdity with which the letter of Scoto-Britannus is filled, my own would ſwell to an inconvenient ſize. I cannot omit, however, his reaſoning on the objection ſtated by himſelf, drawn from the difference between the ancient and modern modes of philoſophiſing, although it is very well turned againſt himſelf by Urbanus, in your ſucceeding Magazine. Scoto Britannus, ſpeaking of this objection, ſays, "But though we were "to allow its efficacy, it would only "follow, that the progreſs of ſcience "at preſent, ſhould excell in rapidi-"ty its advancement among the an-"cients, as much as the preſent me-"thod of inveſtigating truth is ſu-"perior to that which was formerly "in uſe, and not that in the one caſe "it will decreaſe and vaniſh, while in "the other it is carried to the high-"eſt pitch of poſſible perfection." But here it muſt be recollected, that there is not merely a SUPERIORITY, a *good* and a BETTER; there is an abſolute contrariety. The preſent mode of inveſtigating truth is not merely an improvement on that which obtained among the ancients; it is diametrically oppoſed to it; for while they wandered in the dark and pathleſs fields of conjecture and imagination, we proceed by the ſure and illuminating way of experiments and obſervation. When the cauſes then are at variance, the effects which they produce muſt be oppoſite alſo. It can be no ſubject for wonder, that ſcience ſhould decreaſe and vaniſh when purſued by a mode of inveſtigation which leads to falſehood, or that it ſhould be carried to the higheſt pitch of poſſible perfection when purſued by a mode which leads to truth.

I now come to what your correſpondent Urbanus deſervedly denounces as the moſt objectionable paſſage in Scoto-Britannus's letter. After ſtating his opinion, (but without the ſupport of any thing that can be called argument,) that it is inconſiſtent with the belief of a future ſtate to ſuppoſe that a period ſhall come when "ignorance ſhall be baniſhed "from the earth, when reaſon ſhall "univerſally prevail, and when all "men ſhall become philoſophers," he

he adds, "*Such a period is far from "being desirable.*" And why? "Sub-"ordination would then ceaſe, the "mechanical arts would be totally "neglected, and anarchy and confu-"ſion reign predominant!!" And could Mr Scoto-Britannus then not live but in a ſtate of ſociety where ſome of his fellow-creatures muſt be ſubordinate to himſelf? Inſolence intolerable! It is true, ſubordination would then ceaſe, becauſe it would be then unneceſſary: but does Scoto-Britannus, for this, imagine that "the "mechanical arts would be totally "neglected?" Yes:—becauſe his prejudices have taught him to believe that a philoſopher could not endure manual labour: or, perhaps, ſtile more contemptible, that it would be degrading to a philoſopher to be ſo employed!—No doubt, to labour *ten* hours in the four-and-twenty, cramps the energy of the mind, and retards its progreſs in philoſophy; but to labour *two* hours would have a very different effect; and that is the moſt that might be neceſſary, if that happy period were arrived, "when ſub-"ordination will ceaſe." Man is poſſeſſed both of powers of body and mind, and his proper and fit condition is where both theſe powers are exerciſed. When we reflect, then, how different from this is his preſent condition, we diſcover the cauſe of his miſery: it is no wonder to ſee one part of mankind models of inhumanity and injuſtice, when they have monopolized the time and the labour of the other. It is no wonder to ſee the other, models of ignorance and vice, when their labour and their time are thus monopolized. But "anarchy and confuſion would reign "predominant." — What! Would the baniſhment of ignorance be favourable to the introduction of anarchy? Would the univerſal empire of reaſon be favourable to anarchy? Would all men, becoming philoſophers, make confuſion reign predominant? If theſe queſtions are anſwered in the affirmative, the *anſwerer* may add, to compleat the round of contradictions, that "the more "reaſonable mankind ſhall become, "the more unreaſonable will be their "actions."

What your correſpondent next advances with regard to electricity and magnetiſm, is ſcarcely deſerving of animadverſion. Thoſe philoſophers, the differences of whoſe hypotheſis he ſo learnedly ſhews, concerning the cauſe of magnetic action, were in their enquiries into that cauſe, obliged to forſake the only ſure road to improvement in ſcience, experience, and obſervation, and to deviate into the antient method of conjecture. But if theſe two ſciences ſhould never advance a ſtep farther, it is no proof that all the reſt muſt ſtand ſtill alſo.

I now come to the concluſion of this letter. Scoto-Britannus, abandoning all pretenſions to reaſoning, betakes himſelf to abuſe: "beſide "the *falſehood* of this doctrine, (ſays "he,) it appears to me, Sir, to be "the *foundation* of that abſurd ſyſ-"tem of *modern philoſophiſm*." Modern philoſophiſm! Had it not been for ſome expreſſions which followed, I ſhould certainly have had no other clue here to diſcover the meaning of Scoto-Britannus, than the abſurdity of the reaſoning in *his own* letter. Which might have ſhown that *he* was a falſe or pretended philoſopher *, and that thoſe perſons whom he denominated *philoſophiſts*, were the true. Nothing is more eaſy than to *give* nicknames or to *return* them, and this elegant one, invented (I ſuppoſe) by Scoto-Britannus and echoed by Urbanus, might, without injuſtice, be applied to himſelf. He ſays, that it (the

* A philoſopher, I underſtand to be an impartial and indefatigable enquirer after truth.

(the doctrine of perfectibility) appears to him to be the foundation of "that ſyſtem which cancels every "obligation of morality, &c." What ſyſtem that is, he does not inform us, further than by deſcription, and were I to pitch upon that which moſt nearly reſembles the picture he draws, I have ſtrong reaſons to believe, that it would be very different from the one *intended* to be deſcribed. Had this dangerous ſyſtem no name? Or did Scoto-Britannus fear to name it? If this ſyſtem was pregnant with all the evils deſcribed by Scoto-Britannus, would not his time have been better employed in ſhewing its falſehood than in railing againſt it?

Scoto-Britannus ſays, that he looks "forward to a period," and that his "hopes will not be diſappointed, "when cruelty and diſorder ſhall be "baniſhed from the earth, &c." I would aſk him one queſtion: Upon what ground, but that of this ſame abſurd and wicked doctrine of perfectibility, are his hopes founded, that this period ſhall ever arrive, at the proſpect of which his "heart warms" and "expands."

He tells us of ſome aſſertions which he has made, that they are not "deſtitute of probability, nor devoid "of evidence;" but he has neither ſhown the probability nor produced the evidence, and leaves us only to rely on his word. "To ſhew the narrow ſphere of human capacity," he brings to our recollection the many inſtances of ſuperſtition and cruelty to be found among the ancients; and concludes, "Yet this is man, whoſe "powers have been ſo extolled, and "whoſe unaſſiſted reaſon has been "exalted to the ſkies." But who ever extolled man's *unaſſiſted* reaſon? Who ever dreamed that untutored man could eſcape the impoſitions of ſuperſtition and tyranny? None. It is by the aſſiſtance of *other men and their experience*, whether communicated thro' the medium of converſation or writing, that man may be expected to ſhake off every prejudice, and ſtand forth a being of ſcience and juſtice.

[Scoto-Britannus' firſt letter appears to me, to be the one in this controverſy which moſt demands remark: I have now finiſhed my obſervations on it; and, as I find that they have extended to a greater length than I expected—to as great a length as it is probable you may find room for in one Magazine, I ſend you them; and if I find they gain admiſſion into your Magazine, I will probably offer you, at a future period, what remarks occur to me on the remaining part of the diſpute.]

Edinburgh, 19*th Jan.* 1802. } *R.*

EXTRACTS FROM PROFESSOR STEWART'S ACCOUNT OF THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF WILLIAM ROBERTSON, D. D. LATE PRINCIPAL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

Dr Robertſon's early life.

WILLIAM ROBERTSON, D. D. late principal of the univerſity of Edinburgh, and hiſtoriographer to his Majeſty for Scotland, was the ſon of the Rev. William Robertſon, miniſter of the Old Gray Friar's church, and of Eleanor Pitcairn, daughter of David Pitcairn, Eſq. of Dreghorn. By his father he was deſcended from the Robertſons of Gladney, in the county of Fife; a branch of the reſpectable family of the ſame name, which has, for many generations, poſſeſſed the eſtate of Struan in Perthſhire.

He was born in 1721, at Borthwick (in the county of Mid-Lothian,) where his father was then miniſter; and received the firſt rudiments of his

his education at the ſchool of Dalkeith, which, from the high reputation of Mr Leſlie as a teacher, was at that time reſorted to from all parts of Scotland. In 1733, he again joined his father's family on their removal to Edinburgh; and, towards the end of the ſame year, he entered on his courſe of academical ſtudy.

From this period till the year 1759, when, by the publication of his Scottiſh Hiſtory, he fixed a new æra in the literary annals of his country, the habits and occurrences of his life were ſuch as to ſupply few materials for biography; and the imagination is left to fill up a long interval ſpent in the ſilent purſuit of letters, and enlivened by the ſecret anticipation of future eminence. His genius was not of that forward and irregular growth, which forces itſelf prematurely on public notice: and it was only a few intimate and diſcerning friends, who, in the native vigour of his powers, and in the patient culture by which he laboured to improve them, perceived the earneſts of a fame that was to laſt for ever.

The large proportion of Dr Robertſon's life which he thus devoted to obſcurity, will appear the more remarkable, when contraſted with his early and enthuſiaſtic love of ſtudy. Some of his oldeſt common-place books, ſtill in his ſon's poſſeſſion, (dated in the years 1735, 1736, and 1737,) bear marks of a perſevering aſſiduity, unexampled perhaps at ſo tender an age; and the motto prefixed to all of them *(Vita ſine literis mors eſt)* atteſts how ſoon thoſe views and ſentiments were formed, which, to his lateſt hour, continued to guide and to dignify his ambition. In times ſuch as the preſent, when literary diſtinction leads to other rewards, the labours of the ſtudious are often prompted by motives very different from the hope of fame, or the inſpiration of genius; but when Dr Robertſon's career commenced, theſe were the only incitements which exiſted to animate his exertions. The trade of authorſhip was unknown in Scotland; and the rank which that country had early acquired among the learned nations of Europe, had, for many years, been ſuſtained entirely by a ſmall number of eminent men, who diſtinguiſhed themſelves by an honourable and diſintereſted zeal in the ungainful walks of abſtract ſcience.

Publication of his Hiſtory of Scotland.

From this moment the complexion of his fortune was changed. After a long ſtruggle, in an obſcure though a happy and hoſpitable retreat, with a narrow income and an increaſing family, his proſpects brightened at once. He ſaw independence and affluence within his reach; and flattered himſelf with the idea of giving a ſtill bolder flight to his genius, when no longer depreſſed by thoſe tender anxieties which ſo often fall to the lot of men, whoſe purſuits and habits, while they heighten the endearments of domeſtic life, withdraw them from the paths of intereſt and ambition.

In venturing on a ſtep, the ſucceſs of which was to be ſo deciſive, not only with reſpect to his fame, but to his future comfort, it is not ſurpriſing that he ſhould have felt, in a more than common degree, "that anxiety "and diffidence ſo natural to an au- "thor in delivering to the world his "firſt performance."—"The time" (he obſerves in his preface) "which "I have employed in attempting to "render it worthy of the public ap- "probation, it is perhaps prudent to "conceal, till it ſhall be known whe- "ther that approbation is ever to "be beſtowed."

Among the many congratulatory letters addreſſed to him on this occaſion, a few have been accidentally preſerved; and, although the contents of ſome of them may not now appear

appear very important, they ſtill derive a certain degree of intereſt from the names and characters of the writers, and from the ſympathetic ſhare which a good-natured reader cannot fail to take in Dr Robertſon's feelings, when he perceived the firſt dawning of his future fame.

A letter from Mr Horace Walpole, to whom ſome ſpecimens of the work had been communicated during the author's viſit to London, is the earlieſt teſtimony of this kind which I have found among his papers. It is dated January 18, 1759.

"I expect with impatience your "book, which you are ſo kind as to "ſay you ordered for me, and for "which I already gave you many "thanks: the ſpecimen I ſaw con-"vinces me that I do not thank you "raſhly. Good hiſtorians are the "moſt ſcarce of all writers; and no "wonder! a good ſtyle is not very "common—thorough information is "ſtill more rare: and if theſe meet, "what a chance that impartiality "ſhould be added to them! Your "ſtyle, Sir, I may venture to ſay, "I ſaw was uncommonly good; I "have reaſon to think your informa-"tion ſo: and in the few times I had "the pleaſure of converſing with "you, your good ſenſe and candour "made me conclude, that even on a "ſubject which we are fooliſh enough "to make *party*, you preſerve your "judgment unbiaſſed. I fear I ſhall "not preſerve mine ſo; the too kind "acknowledgements that I frequent-"ly receive from gentlemen of your "country, of the juſt praiſe that I "paid to merit, will make me, at "leaſt for the future, not very un-"prejudiced. If the opinion of ſo "trifling a writer as I am was of any "conſequence, it would then be "worth Scotland's while to let the "world know, that when my book "was written, I had no reaſon to be "partial to it. But, Sir, your coun-"try will truſt to the merit of its "natives, not to foreign teſtimonials, "for its reputation."

This letter was followed immediately by another from Dr Robertſon's bookſeller, Mr Millar. It is dated 27th January 1759, a few days before the publication of the book, and conveys very flattering expreſſions of approbation from Dr Warburton and Mr Garrick, to both of whom copies had been privately ſent at the author's requeſt: expreſſions which, they cannot now add much to a reputation ſo ſolidly eſtabliſhed, were gratifying at the time, and do honour to the candour and diſcernment of the writers.

Of this work, ſo flattering to the author by its firſt ſucceſs, no fewer than fourteen editions were publiſhed before his death; and he had the ſatisfaction to ſee its popularity increaſe to the laſt, notwithſtanding the repeated aſſaults it had to encounter from various writers, diſtinguiſhed by their controverſial acuteneſs, and ſeconded by all the prepoſſeſſions which are likely to influence the opinions of the majority of readers. The character of Mary has been delineated anew, and the tale of her misfortunes has again been told, with no common powers of expreſſion and pathos, by an hiſtorian more indulgent to her errors, and more undiſtinguiſhing in his praiſe: but, after all, it is in the hiſtory of Dr Robertſon that every one ſtill reads the tranſactions of her reign; and ſuch is his ſkilful contraſt of light and ſhade, aided by the irreſiſtible charm of his narration, that the ſtory of the beautiful and unfortunate Queen, as related by him, excites on the whole a deeper intereſt in her fortunes, and a more lively ſympathy with her fate, than have been produced by all the attempts to canonize her memory, whether inſpired by the ſympathetic zeal of the Romiſh church, or the enthuſiaſm of Scottiſh chivalry.

In peruſing the letters addreſſed to Dr

Dr Robertſon on the publication of this book, it is ſomewhat remarkable that I have not found one in which he is charged with the ſlighteſt unfairneſs towards the Queen; and that, on the contrary, almoſt all his correſpondents accuſe him of an undue prepoſſeſſion in her favour. "I am "afraid" (ſays Mr Hume) "that "you, as well as myſelf, have drawn "Mary's character with too great "ſoftenings. She was undoubtedly "a violent woman at all times. You "will ſee in Murden proofs of the "utmoſt rancour againſt her inno- "cent, good-natured, dutiful ſon. "She certainly diſinherited him. "What think you of a conſpiracy "for kidnapping him, and delivering "him a priſoner to the King of "Spain, never to recover his liberty "till he ſhould turn Catholic!—— "Tell Goodall, that if he can but "give me up Queen Mary, I hope "to ſatisfy him in every thing elſe; "and he will have the pleaſure of "ſeeing John Knox and the refor- "mers made very ridiculous."

"It is plain" (ſays Mr Walpole) "that you wiſh to excuſe Mary; "and yet it is ſo plain that you ne- "ver violate truth in her favour, that "I own I think ſtill worſe of her "than I did, ſince I read your hiſ- "tory."

Dr Birch expreſſes himſelf much to the ſame purpoſe. "If the ſecond "volume of the State Papers of "Lord Burleigh, publiſhed ſince "Chriſtmas here, had appeared be- "fore your hiſtory had been finiſhed, "it would have furniſhed you with "reaſons for entertaining a leſs fa- "vourable opinion of Mary Queen "of Scots in one or two points, "than you ſeem at preſent poſſeſſed "of."

Dr John Blair, too, in a letter dated from London, obſerves to Dr Robertſon, that "the only general "objection to his work was founded "on his tenderneſs for Queen Mary."—"Lord Cheſterfield" (ſays he) "though he approves much of your "hiſtory, told me, that he finds this "to be a bias which no Scotchman "can get the better of."

Publication of the Hiſtory of Charles V. —Letter from Mr Hume.

The delays which retarded the publication of the Hiſtory of Charles V. together with the author's eſtabliſhed popularity as a writer, had raiſed the curioſity of the public to a high pitch before that work appeared; and perhaps there never was a book, unconnected with the circumſtances of the times, that was expected with more general impatience. It is unneceſſary for me to ſay, that theſe expectations were not diſappointed; nor would it be worth while to ſwell this memoir with a repetition of the eulogiums laviſhed on the author in the literary journals of the day.

The paragraphs which immediately follow are part of a letter from Mr Hume, without any date; but written, as appears from the contents, while the Hiſtory of Charles V. was ſtill in the preſs. The levity of the ſtyle forms ſuch a ſtriking contraſt to the character which this grave and philoſophical hiſtorian ſuſtains in his publications, that I have ſometimes heſitated about the propriety of ſubjecting to the criticiſms of the world ſo careleſs an effuſion of gaiety and affection. I truſt, however, that to ſome it will not be wholly unintereſting to enjoy a glimpſe of the writer and his correſpondent in the habits of private intercourſe; and that to them the playful and good-natured irony of Mr Hume will ſuggeſt not unpleaſing pictures of the hours which they borrowed from buſineſs and ſtudy. Dr Robertſon uſed frequently to ſay, that in Mr Hume's gaiety there was ſomething which approached to *infantine*; and that he had found the ſame thing ſo often exemplified

exemplified in the circle of his other friends, that he was almoſt diſpoſed to conſider it as characteriſtical of genius.

"I got yeſterday from Strahan "about thirty ſheets of your hiſtory "to be ſent over to Suard *, and laſt "night and this morning have run "them over with great avidity. I "could not deny myſelf the ſatis- "faction (which I hope alſo will not "diſpleaſe you) of expreſſing pre- "ſently my extreme approbation of "them. To ſay only they are very "well written, is by far too faint an "expreſſion, and much inferior to "the ſentiments I feel: they are "compoſed with nobleneſs, with dig- "nity, with elegance, and with judg- "ment, to which there are few e- "quals. They even excel, and, I "think, in a ſenſible degree, your "Hiſtory of Scotland. I propoſe "to myſelf great pleaſure in being "the only man in England, during "ſome months, who will be in the "ſituation of doing you juſtice, after "which you may certainly expect "that my voice will be drowned in "that of the public.

"You know that you and I have "always been on the footing of find- "ing in each other's productions "*ſomething to blame, and ſomething to* "*commend*; and therefore you may "perhaps expect alſo ſome ſeaſoning "of the former kind; but really nei- "ther my leiſure nor inclination al- "lowed me to make ſuch remarks, "and I ſincerely believe you have "afforded me very ſmall materials for "them. However, ſuch particulars "as occur to my memory I ſhall "mention. *Maltreat* is a Scotticiſm "which occurs once. What the devil "had you to do with that old-faſh- "ioned dangling word *wherewith?* "I ſhould as ſoon take back *where-* "*upon*, *whereunto*, and *wherewithal*. "I think the only tolerable, decent "gentleman of the family, is *wherein*, "and I ſhould not chuſe to be often "ſeen in his company. But I know "your affection for *wherewith* pro- "ceeds from your partiality to Dean "Swift, whom I can often laugh "with, whoſe ſtyle I can even ap- "prove, but ſurely can never admire. "It has no harmony, no eloquence, "no ornament; and not much cor- "rectneſs, whatever the Engliſh may "imagine. Were not their litera- "ture ſtill in a ſomewhat barbarous "ſtate, that author's place would "not be ſo high among their claſſics. "But what a fancy is this you have "taken of ſaying always *an hand, an* "*heart, an head?* Have you *an ear?* "Do you not know that this (n) is "added before vowels to prevent the "cacaphony, and ought never to "take place before (h) when that "letter is ſounded? It is never pro- "nounced in theſe words: why "ſhould it be wrote? Thus, I "ſhould ſay, a *hiſtory*, and an *hiſto-* "*rian*; and ſo would you too, if you "had any ſenſe. But you tell me "that Swift does otherwiſe. To be "ſure there is no reply to that; and "we muſt ſwallow your *hath* too "upon the ſame authority. I will "ſee you d——d ſooner. But I "will endeavour to keep my tem- "per.

"I do not like this ſentence in "page 149. "This ſtep was taken "in conſequence of the treaty Wol- "ſey had concluded with the Em- "peror at Bruſſels, and which had "hitherto been kept ſecret." *Si sic* "*omnia dixisses*, I ſhould never have "been plagued with hearing your "praiſes ſo often ſounded, and that "fools preferred your ſtyle to mine. "Certainly it had been better to "have ſaid, *which Wolsey, &c.* That "relative ought very ſeldom to be "omitted, and is here particularly "requiſite to preſerve a ſymmetry "between the two members of the "ſentence. You omit the relative "too

Ed. Mag. Feb. 1802.

* The French tranſlator.

" too often, which is a colloquial " barbariſm, as Mr Johnſon calls it.

" Your periods are ſometimes, " though not often, too long. Suard " will be embarraſſed with them, as " the modiſh French ſtyle runs into " the other extreme. . . . . ."

A continuation of Hume's History proposed by Dr Robertson.

In conſequence of the interruption of Dr Robertſon's plans, produced by the American revolution, he was led to think of ſome other ſubject which might, in the mean time, give employment to his ſtudious leiſure. A letter, dated July 1778, to his friend the Rev. Mr Waddilove (now Dean of Rippon,) contains ſome important information with reſpect to his deſigns at this period.

" The ſtate of our affairs in North " America is not ſuch as to invite " me to go on with my Hiſtory of " the New World. I muſt wait for " times of greater tranquillity, when " I can write, and the public can " read, with more impartiality and " better information than at preſent. " Every perſon with whom I con- " verſed in London, confirmed me in " my reſolution of making a pauſe " for a little, until it ſhall be known " in what manner the ferment will " ſubſide. But as it is neither my " inclination nor intereſt to be alto- " gether idle, many of my friends " have ſuggeſted to me a new ſubject, " the Hiſtory of Great Britain, from " the Revolution to the Acceſſion " of the Houſe of Hanover. It will " be ſome ſatisfaction to me to enter " on a domeſtic ſubject, after being " engaged ſo long on foreign ones, " where one half of my time and la- " bour were employed in teaching " myſelf to underſtand manners, and " laws, and forms, which I was to " explain to others. You know bet- " ter than any body how much pains " I beſtowed in ſtudying the conſti- " tution, the manners, and the com- " merce of Spaniſh America. The " review contained in the firſt volume " of Charles V. was founded on re- " ſearches ſtill more laborious. I ſhall " not be involved in the ſame pain- " ful inquiries, if I undertake the " preſent work. I poſſeſs already as " much knowledge of the Britiſh go- " vernment and laws as uſually is " poſſeſſed by other perſons who " have been well educated and have " lived in good company. A minute " inveſtigation of facts will be the " chief object of my attention. With " reſpect to theſe, I ſhall be much " aided by the original papers pub- " liſhed by Sir John Dalrymple and " Macpherſon, and lately by Lord " Hardwicke. The Memoirs of " Noailles, concerning the French " negociations in Spain, contain " very curious information. I have " got a very valuable collection of " papers from the Duke of Mon- " tague, which belonged to the " Duke of Shrewſbury; and I am " promiſed the large collection of " the Duke of Marlborough, which " were formerly in the hands of Mr " Mallet. From theſe and other " materials, I hope to write a hiſ- " tory which may be both entertain- " ing and inſtructive. I know that " I ſhall get upon dangerous ground, " and muſt relate events, concerning " which our political factions enter- " tain very different ſentiments. But " I am little alarmed with this. I " flatter myſelf that I have temper " enough to judge with impartiality; " and if, after examining with can- " dour I do give offence, there is no " man whoſe ſituation is more inde- " pendent."

Whatever the motives were which induced him to relinquiſh this project, it is certain that it did not long occupy his thoughts. From a letter of Mr Gibbon, it would appear to have been abandoned before the end of the year 1779. The paſſage is intereſting, not only as it ſerves to aſcertain

certain the fact, but as it ſuggeſts a valuable hint with reſpect to a different hiſtorical ſubject.

" I remember a kind of engage-
" ment you had contracted to repeat
" your viſit to London every ſecond
" year, and I look forward with
" pleaſure to next ſpring, when your
" bond will naturally become due.
" I ſhould almoſt hope that you
" would bring with you ſome fruits
" of your leiſure, had I not been in-
" formed that you had totally relin-
" quiſhed your deſign of continuing
" Mr Hume's Hiſtory of England.
" Notwithſtanding the juſt and deep
" ſenſe which I muſt entertain (if
" the intelligence be true) of our
" public loſs, I have ſcarcely cou-
" rage enough to blame you. The
" want of materials and the danger
" of offence are two formidable ob-
" ſtacles for an hiſtorian who wiſhes
" to inſtruct, and who is determined
" not to betray his readers. But if
" you leave the narrow limits of our
" iſland, there ſtill remain, without
" returning to the troubled ſcene of
" America, many ſubjects not un-
" worthy of your genius. Will you
" give me leave, as a vague and in-
" digeſted hint, to ſuggeſt the Hiſ-
" tory of the Proteſtants in France;
" the events are important in them-
" ſelves, and intimately connected
" with the great revolutions of Eu-
" rope; ſome of the boldeſt or moſt
" amiable characters of modern times,
" the Admiral Coligny, Henry IV.
" &c. would be your peculiar he-
" roes; the materials are copious,
" and authentic, and acceſſible; and
" the objects appear to ſtand at that
" juſt diſtance which excites curi-
" oſity without inſpiring paſſion.
" Excuſe the freedom, and weigh
" the merits (if any) of this pro-
" poſal."

Sketch of Dr Robertſon's Character.—His death.

In conſequence of the various connexions with ſociety, which aroſe from his profeſſional duties, and from the intereſt which he was led to take, both by his official ſituation, and the activity of his public ſpirit, in the literary or the patriotic undertakings of others, a conſiderable portion of Dr Robertſon's leiſure was devoted to converſation and company. No man enjoyed theſe with more reliſh; and few have poſſeſſed the ſame talents to add to their attractions.

A rich ſtock of miſcellaneous information, acquired from books and from an extenſive intercourſe with the world, together with a perfect acquaintance, at all times, with the topics of the day, and the ſoundeſt ſagacity and good ſenſe applied to the occurrences of common life, rendered him the moſt agreeable and inſtructive of companions. He ſeldom aimed at wit; but, with his intimate friends, he often indulged a ſportive and fanciful ſpecies of humour. He delighted in good natured, characteriſtical anecdotes of his acquaintance, and added powerfully to their effect by his own enjoyment in relating them. He was, in a remarkable degree, ſuſceptible of the ludicrous; but on no occaſion did he forget the dignity of his character, or the decorum of his profeſſion; nor did he even loſe ſight of that claſſical taſte which adorned his compoſitions. His turn of expreſſion was correct and pure; ſometimes, perhaps, inclining more than is expected to the careleſſneſs of a ſocial hour, to formal and artificial periods; but it was ſtamped with his own manner, no leſs than his premeditated ſtyle; it was always the language of a ſuperior and a cultivated mind, and it embelliſhed every ſubject on which he ſpoke. In the company of ſtrangers, he increaſed his exertions to amuſe and to inform; and the ſplendid variety of his converſation was commonly the chief circumſtance on which they dwelt in enumerating his talents: and yet, I muſt

muſt acknowledge, for my own part, that much as I always admired his powers when they were thus called forth, I enjoyed his ſociety leſs, than when I ſaw him in the circle of his intimates, or in the boſom of his family.

His health began apparently to decline in the end of the year 1791. Till then, it had been more uniformly good than might have been expected from his ſtudious habits: but, about this period, he ſuddenly diſcovered ſtrong ſymptoms of jaundice, which gradually undermined his conſtitution, and terminated at length in a lingering and fatal illneſs. He had the proſpect of death long before him; a proſpect deeply afflicting to his family and his friends; but of which, without any viſible abatement in his ſpirits, he happily availed himſelf, to adorn the doctrines which he had long taught, by an example of fortitude and of Chriſtian reſignation. In the concluding ſtage of his diſorder, he removed from Edinburgh to Grange Houſe, in the neighbourhood, where he had the advantage of a freer air, and a more quiet ſituation, and (what he valued more than moſt men,) the pleaſure of rural objects, and of a beautiful landſcape. While he was able to walk abroad, he commonly paſſed a part of the day in a ſmall garden, enjoying the ſimple gratifications it afforded with all his wonted reliſh. Some who now hear me will long remember, among the trivial yet intereſting incidents which marked theſe laſt weeks of his memorable life, his daily viſits to the fruit-trees (which were then in bloſſom,) and the ſmile with which he, more than once, contraſted the intereſt he took in their progreſs, with the event which was to happen before their maturity. At his particular deſire, I ſaw him (for the laſt time) on the 4th of June 1793, when his weakneſs confined him to his couch, and his articulation was already beginning to fail; and it is in obedience to a requeſt with which he then honoured me, that I have ventured, without conſulting my own powers, to offer this tribute to his memory. He died on the 11th of the ſame month, in the 71ſt year of his age.

In point of ſtature Dr Robertſon was rather above the middle ſize; and his form, though it did not convey the idea of much activity, announced vigour of body and a healthful conſtitution. His features were regular and manly; and his eyes ſpoke at once good ſenſe and good humour. He appeared to greateſt advantage in his complete clerical dreſs; and was more remarkable for gravity and dignity in diſcharging the functions of his public ſtations, than for eaſe and grace in private ſociety. His portrait by Reynolds, painted about twenty years ago, is an admirable likeneſs; and fortunately, (for the colours are already much faded,) all its ſpirit is preſerved in an excellent metzotinto. At the requeſt of his colleagues in the univerſity, who were anxious to have ſome memorial of him placed in the public library, he ſat again, a few months before his death, to Mr Raeburn; at a time when his altered and ſickly aſpect rendered the taſk of the artiſt peculiarly difficult. The picture, however, is not only worthy, in every reſpect, of Mr Raeburn's high and deſerved reputation, but, to thoſe who were accuſtomed to ſee Dr Robertſon at this intereſting period, derives an additional value from an air of languor and feebleneſs, which ſtrongly marked his appearance during his long decline.

LETTERS FROM MR HUME.

Mr Hume to Dr Robertſon.

My dear Sir, *25th Jan.* 1759.

What I wrote you with regard to Mary's concurrence in the conſpiracy againſt Queen Elizabeth, was from the printed hiſtories of papers; and nothing

nothing ever appeared to me more evident. Your chief objection, I ſee, is derived from one circumſtance, that neither the ſecretaries nor conſpirators were confronted with Mary: but you muſt conſider that the law did not then require this confrontation, and it was in no caſe the practice. The crown could not well grant it in one caſe, without granting it in all, becauſe the refuſing of it would then have been a ſtrong preſumption of innocence in the priſoner. Yet as Mary's was an extraordinary caſe, Elizabeth was willing to have granted it. I find in Forbes's MS. papers, ſent me by Lord Royſton, a letter of hers to Burleigh and Walſingham, wherein ſhe tells them, that, if they thought proper, they might carry down the two ſecretaries to Fotheringay, in order to confront them with her. But they reply, that they think it needleſs.

But I am now ſorry to tell you, that by Murden's State Papers, which are printed, the matter is put beyond all queſtion. I got theſe papers during the holidays by Dr Birch's means; and as ſoon as I had read them, I ran to Millar, and deſired him very earneſtly to ſtop the publication of your hiſtory till I ſhould write to you, and give you an opportunity of correcting a miſtake of ſo great moment; but he abſolutely refuſed compliance. He ſaid that your book was now finiſhed; that the copies would be ſhipped for Scotland in two days; that the whole narration of Mary's trial muſt be wrote over again; that this would require time, and it was uncertain whether the new narrative could be brought within the ſame compaſs with the old; that this change, he ſaid, would require the cancelling a great many ſheets; that there were ſcattered paſſages through the volumes founded on your theory, and theſe muſt alſo be all cancelled; and that this change required the new printing of a great part of the edition. For theſe reaſons, which do not want force, he refuſed, after deliberation, to ſtop his publication, and I was obliged to acquieſce. Your beſt apology at preſent is, that you could not poſſibly ſee the grounds of Mary's guilt, and every equitable perſon will excuſe you.

I am ſorry, on many accounts, that you did not ſee this collection of Murden's. Among other curioſities, there are ſeveral inſtructions to H. Killigrew, dated 10th Sept. 1572. He was then ſent into Scotland. It there appears, that the regents, Murray and Lennox, had deſired Mary to be put into their hands, in order to try her and put her to death. Elizabeth there offers to Regent Mar to deliver her up, provided good ſecurity were given, "that ſhe ſhould re-"ceive that ſhe hath deſerved there "by order of juſtice, whereby no "further peril ſhould enſue by her "eſcaping, or by ſetting her up a-"gain." It is probable Mar refuſed compliance, for no ſteps were taken towards it.

London, 8th Feb. 1759.

* * * * * As to the *Age of Leo the Tenth*, it was Warton himſelf who intended to write it; but he has not wrote it, and probably never will. If I underſtand your hint, I ſhould conjecture that you had ſome thoughts of taking up the ſubject. But how can you acquire a knowledge of the great works of ſculpture, architecture, and painting, by which that age was chiefly diſtinguiſhed? Are you verſed in all the anecdotes of the Italian literature? Theſe queſtions I heard propoſed in a company of literati, when I enquired concerning this deſign of Warton. They applied their remarks to that gentleman, who yet, they ſay, has travelled. I wiſh they do not all of them fall more fully on you. However, you muſt not be idle. May I venture to ſuggeſt to you the Ancient Hiſtory, particularly that of Greece? I think Rollin's

Rollin's ſucceſs might encourage you, nor need you be in the leaſt intimidated by his merit. That author has no other merit but a certain facility and ſweetneſs of narration, but has loaded his work with fifty puerilities.

Our friend Wedderburn is advancing with great ſtrides in his profeſſion. * * * * *

I deſire my compliments to Lord Elibank. I hope his Lordſhip has forgot his vow of anſwering us, and of waſhing Queen Mary white. I am afraid that is impoſſible; but his Lordſhip is very well qualified to gild her. I am, &c.

Paris, 1st Dec.

Dear Robertſon, 1763.

Among other agreeable circumſtances which attend me at Paris, I muſt mention that of having a lady for a tranſlator, a woman of merit, the widow of an advocate. She was before very poor, and known but to few; but this work has got her reputation, and procured her a penſion from the court, which ſets her at her eaſe. She tells me that ſhe has got a habit of induſtry; and would continue, if I could point out to her any other Engliſh book ſhe could undertake, without running the riſk of being anticipated by any other tranſlator. Your Hiſtory of Scotland is tranſlated, and is in the preſs: but I recommended to her your Hiſtory of Charles V. and promiſed to write to you, in order to know when it would be printed, and to deſire you to ſend over the ſheets from London as they came from the preſs; I ſhould put them into her hands, and ſhe would by that means have the ſtart of every other tranſlator. My two volumes laſt publiſhed are at preſent in the preſs. She has a very eaſy natural ſtyle; ſometimes ſhe miſtakes the ſenſe; but I now correct her manuſcript; and ſhould be happy to render you the ſame ſervice, if my leiſure permit me, as I hope it will. Do you aſk me about my courſe of life? I can only ſay, that I eat nothing but ambroſia, drink nothing but nectar, breathe nothing but incenſe, and tread on nothing but flowers. Every man I meet, and ſtill more every lady, would think they were wanting in the moſt indiſpenſable duty, if they did not make to me a long and elaborate harangue in my praiſe. What happened laſt week, when I had the honour of being preſented to the D——n's children at Verſailles, is one of the moſt curious ſcenes I have yet paſſed through. The Duc de B. the eldeſt, a boy of ten years old, ſtepped forth, and told me how many friends and admirers I had in this country, and that he reckoned himſelf in the number, from the pleaſure he had received from the reading of many paſſages in my works. When he had finiſhed, his brother, the Count de P. who is two years younger, began his diſcourſe, and informed me, that I had been long and impatiently expected in France; and that he himſelf expected ſoon to have great ſatisfaction from the reading of my fine hiſtory. But what is more curious; when I was carried thence to the Count d' A. who is but four years of age, I heard him mumble ſomething, which though he had forgot it in the way, I conjectured, from ſome ſcattered words, to have been alſo a panegyric dictated to him. Nothing could more ſurpriſe my friends, the Pariſian philoſophers, than this incident.

* * * * * *

It is conjectured that this honour was paid me by expreſs order from the D. who, indeed, is not on any occaſion ſparing in my praiſe.

All this attention and panegyric was at firſt oppreſſive to me; but now it ſits more eaſy. I have recovered, in ſome meaſure, the uſe of the language, and I am falling into friends which are very agreeable; much more ſo than

filly,

ſilly, diſtant admiration. They now begin to banter me, and tell droll ſtories of me, which they have either obſerved themſelves, or have heard from others; ſo that you ſee I am beginning to be at home. It is probable that this place will be long my home. I feel little inclination to the factious barbarians of London; and have ever deſired to remain in the place where I am planted. How much more ſo, when it is the beſt place in the world? I could here live in great abundance on the half of my income; for there is no place where money is ſo little requiſite to a man who is diſtinguiſhed either by his birth or by perſonal qualities. I could run out, you ſee, in a panegyric on the people; but you would ſuſpect that this was a mutual convention between us. However, I cannot forbear obſerving, on what a different footing learning andthe learned are here, from what they are among the factious barbarians above mentioned.

I have here met with a prodigious hiſtorical curioſity, the Memoirs of King James II. in fourteen volumes, all wrote with his own hand, and kept in the Scots College. I have looked into it, and have made great diſcoveries. It will be all communicated to me; and I have had an offer of acceſs to the ſecretary of ſtate's office, if I want to know the diſpatches of any French miniſter that reſided in London. But theſe matters are much out of my head. I beg of you to viſit Lord Mariſchal, who will be pleaſed with your company. I have little paper remaining, and leſs time; and therefore conclude abruptly, by aſſuring you that I am, dear Doctor,

Yours ſincerely,

DAVID HUME.

EXTRACTS FROM STRUTT'S SPORTS AND PTSTIMES OF THE PEOPLE OF ENGLAND.

(Concluded from p. 432, vol. 18.)

The ſolitary Game

IS ſo denominated, becauſe it is played by one perſon only. The board for this paſtime is of circular form, and perforated with holes, at half an inch diſtance from each other, to the amount of fifty or ſixty. A certain number of pegs are then fitted to thoſe holes, but not enough to fill them all; and the manner of playing the game is, to paſs one of the pegs over another into a hole that is unoccupied, taking the peg ſo paſſed from the board, and to continue doing ſo till all the pegs but one are taken away; which is an operation much more difficult to perform than any one could readily imagine who had not made the attempt.

The origin of playing Cards.

The general opinion reſpecting the origin of playing cards is, that they were firſt made for the amuſement of Charles VI. of France, at the time he was afflicted with a mental derangement*. The proof of this ſuppoſition depends upon an article in the treaſury regiſters belonging to that monarch, which ſtates that a payment was made to Jacbuemine Gringonneuer, painter, for three packs of cards gilded and painted with divers colours and different devices, to be carried to the King for his diverſion. If it be granted, and I ſee no reaſon why it ſhould not, that this entry alludes to playing cards, the conſequences that have been deduced from it do not neceſſarily follow; I mean that theſe cards were the firſt that were made, or that Gringonneur was the inventor of them; it by no means precludes the probability of cards

* This event took place A. D. 1390, and the affliction continued for ſeveral years.

cards having been previouſly uſed in France, but ſimply ſtates that thoſe made by him were gilt and diverſified with devices in variegated colours, the better to amuſe the unfortunate monarch.

Some, allowing that Gringonneur was the firſt maker of playing cards, place the invention in the reign of Charles V. upon the authority of Jean de Saintre, who was page to that monarch; he mentions card-playing in his chronicle; for, he was an author; and the words he uſes would be ſufficient evidence for the exiſtence of cards before the aſcenſion of Charles VI. to the throne of France, if it could be proved that the page did not ſurvive his maſter; but, on the other hand, if he did, they may equally be applied to the amuſements of the ſucceeding reign.

A prohibitory edict againſt the uſage of cards was made in Spain conſiderably anterior to any that have been produced in France; which has inclined ſeveral modern writers upon this ſubject to refer the invention of cards from France to Spain; and the names of ſome of the cards, as well as of many of the moſt ancient games, being evidently derived from the Spaniſh language, are juſtly conſidered as ſtrong corroborating arguments in favour of ſuch an opinion.

A very intelligent writer * upon the origin of engraving aſſerts, that playing cards were invented in Germany, where they were uſed towards the latter end of the fourteen century; but his reaſons are by no means concluſive.

An author of our own country produces a paſſage cited from a wardrobe computus made in the ſixth year of Edward I. which mentions a game entitled '*the four kings*;' and hence, with ſome degree of probability, he conjectures that the uſe of playing cards was then known in England, which is a much earlier period than any that has been aſſigned by the foreign authors. It is the opinion of ſeveral learned writers, well acquainted with Aſiatic hiſtory, that cards were uſed in the eaſtern part of the world long before they found their way into Europe †. If this poſition be granted, when we recollect that Edward I. before his acceſſion to the throne, reſided nearly five years in Syria, it will be natural enough to ſuppoſe that he might have learned the game of 'the 'four kings' in that country, and introduced it at court upon his return to England. An objection, which indeed at firſt ſight ſeems to be a very powerful one, has been raiſed in oppoſition to this conjecture: it is founded upon the total ſilence of every kind of authority reſpecting the ſubject of card playing, from the time that the above-mentioned entry was made to an early period in the reign of Edward IV. including an interval of one hundred and eighty-ſix years. An omiſſion ſo general it is thought would not have taken place, if the words contained in that record alluded to the uſage of playing cards. A game introduced by a monarch could not fail of becoming faſhionable; and, if it continued to be practiſed in after times, muſt in all probability have been mentioned occaſionally in conjunction with the other paſtimes then prevalent. But this ſilence is by no means a poſitive proof that the game of the *four kings* was not played with cards, nor that cards did not continue to be uſed during the whole of the above-mentioned interval in the higher circles, though not perhaps

* Baron Heineken; who ſays that they were known there as early as the year 1376. Idee generale d'une collection des eſtampes.

† Warton ſays, it ſeems probable that the Arabians were the inventors of cards, which they communicated to the Conſtantinopolitan Greeks, Hiſt. Eng. Poetry. vol. ii. p. 316. Indeed it is very likely they were brought into the weſtern parts parts of Europe during the cruſades.

haps with ſuch abuſes as were afterwards practiſed, and which excited the reprehenſion of the moral and religious writers. Beſides, at the time that cards were firſt introduced, they were drawn and painted by the hand without the aſſiſtance of a ſtamp or plate; it follows of courſe that much time was required to complete a ſet or pack of cards; the price they bore no doubt was adequate to the labour beſtowed upon them, which neceſſarily muſt have enhanced the value beyond the purchaſe of the under claſſes of the people, and for this reaſon it is, I preſume, that card-playing, though it might have been known in England, was not much practiſed until ſuch time as inferior ſets of cards, proportionably cheap, were produced for the uſe of the commonality, which ſeems to have been the caſe when Edward the Fourth aſcended the throne; for early in his reign an act was eſtabliſhed, prohibiting the importation of playing cards, and ſoon after that period card-playing became a very general paſtime.

The Lord of Misrule—The King of Christmas—The Festival of Fools—The Boy Bishop.

It is ſaid of the Engliſh, that formerly they were remarkable for the manner in which they celebrated the feſtival of Chriſtmas; at which ſeaſon they admitted variety of ſports and paſtimes not known, or little practiſed in other countries. The *mock prince, or lord of miſrule*, whoſe reign extended through the greater part of the holy days, is particularly remarked by foreign writers, who conſider him as a perſonage rarely to be met with out of England; and two or three centuries back, perhaps this obſervation might be conſiſtent with the truth; but I truſt we ſhall upon due examination be ready to conclude, that anciently this frolickſome monarch was well known upon the continent, where he probably received his firſt honours. In this kingdom his powers and his dignities ſuffered no diminution, but on the contrary were eſtabliſhed by royal authority, and continued after they had ceaſed to exiſt elſewhere. But even with us his government has been extinct for many years, and his name and his officers are nearly forgotten. No doubt, in many inſtances, the privileges allowed to this merry deſpot were abuſed, and not unfrequently productive of immorality; the inſtitution, itſelf even if we view it in its moſt favourable light, is puerile and ridiculous, adapted to the ages of ignorance, when more rational amuſements were not known, or at leaſt not faſhionable.

"At the feaſt of Chriſtmas," ſays Stowe, "in the king's court wherever "he chanced to reſide, there was ap- "pointed a *lord of miſrule*, or *maſter* "*of merry diſports*; the ſame merry "fellow made his appearance at the "houſe of every nobleman and per- "ſon of diſtinction, and among the reſt "the lord mayor of London and the "ſheriffs had ſeverally of them their "*lord of miſrule*, ever contending, "without quarrel or offence, who "ſhould make the rareſt paſtimes to "delight the beholders; this pageant "potentate began his rule at All- "hallow eve, and continued the ſame "till the morrow after the Feaſt of the "Purification; in which ſpace there "were fine and ſubtle diſguiſings, "maſks, and mummeries."

This maſter of merry diſports was not confined to the court, nor to the houſes of the opulent, he was alſo elected in various pariſhes, where, indeed, his reign ſeems to have been of ſhorter date. A writer, who lived at the cloſe of the ſixteenth century, places this whimſical perſonage, with his followers, in a very degrading point of view. I ſhall give the paſſage in the author's own words, and leave the reader to comment upon them. "Firſt of all, the wilde heades "of the pariſh, flocking togither "chuſe

" chuſe them a graund captaine of " miſchife, whom they innoble with " the title of *lord of miſrule*; and " him they crowne with great ſo- " lemnity, and adopt for their king. " This *king annoynted* chooſeth forth " twentie, fourty, threeſcore, or an " hundred luſtie guttes, like to him- " ſelf, to waite upon his lordly ma- " jeſty, and to guard his noble per- " ſon. Then every one of theſe men " he inveſteth with his liveries of " greene, yellow, or ſome other light " wanton colour, and, as though they " were not gawdy ynough, they be- " decke themſelves with ſcarffes, rib- " bons, and laces, hanged all over " with gold ringes, pretious ſtones, " and other jewels. This done, they " tie aboute either legge twentie or " fourtie belles, with riche hanker- " chiefes in their handes, and ſome- " times laide acroſſe over their ſhoul- " ders and neckes, borrowed, for the " moſt part, of their pretie mopſies " and loving Beſſies. Thus all thinges " ſet in order, then have they their " *hobby horſes*, their *dragons*, and other " antiques, together with their bau- " die pipers, and thundring drum- " mers, to ſtrike up the devil's " daunce with all. Then march " this heathen company towards the " church, their pypers pyping, their " drummers thundring, their ſtumpes " dauncing, their belles jyngling, " their handkerchiefes fluttering a- " boute their heades like madde " men, their hobbie horſes and other " monſters ſkirmiſhing amongſt the " throng: and in this ſorte they go " to the church, though the miniſ- " ter be at prayer or preaching, daun- " cing and ſinging like devils incar- " nate, with ſuch a confuſed noiſe " that no man can heare his own " voyce. Then the fooliſh people " they looke, they ſtare, they laugh, " they fleere, and mount upon the " formes and pewes to ſee theſe good- " ly pageants ſolemnized. Then af- " ter this, aboute the church they " goe againe and againe, and ſo " fourthe into the churche yard, " where they have commonly their " ſommer-halls, their bowers, arbours, " and banquetting-houſes, ſet up, " wherein they feaſt, banquet, and " daunce all that day, and *paradven- ture* all that night too; and thus " theſe terreſtrial furies ſpend the " Sabbath day. Then, for the fur- " ther innobling of this honourable " *lardane*, lord I ſhould ſay, they " have certaine papers wherein is " painted ſome babelerie * or other " of imagerie worke, and theſe they " call my Lord of Miſrule's badges " of cognizances. Theſe they give " to every one that will give them " money to maintain them in this " their heatheniſh devilrie; and who " will not ſhow himſelf buxome to " them and give them money, they " ſhall be mocked and flouted ſhame- " fully; yea, and many times carried " upon a cowlſtaffe, and dived over " heade and eares in water, or other- " wiſe moſt horribly abuſed. And " ſo beſſotted are ſome, that they " not only give them money, but " weare their badges or cognizances " in their hats or cappes openly. " Another ſorte of fantaſticall fooles " bring to theſe *belhounds*, the Lord " of Miſrule and his complices, ſome " bread, ſome good ale, ſome new " cheeſe, ſome old cheeſe, ſome cuſ- " tardes, ſome cracknels, ſome cakes, " ſome flauns, ſome tartes, ſome " creame, ſome meat, ſome one thing, " and ſome another."

The ſociety belonging to Lincoln's Inn had anciently an officer choſen at this ſeaſon, who was honoured with the title of *King of Chriſtmas-Day*, becauſe he preſided in the hall upon that day. This temporary potentate had a marſhal and a ſteward to attend upon him. The marſhal, in the abſence of the monarch, was permitted to aſſume his ſtate, and upon

* Childiſh, trifling.

upon New-Year's-day he ſat as king in the hall when the *maſter of the revels*, during the time of dining, ſupplied the marſhal's place. Upon Childermas day they had another officer, denominated the *King of the Cockneys*, who alſo preſided on the day of his appointment, and had his inferior officers to wait upon him *.

Selden aſſerts, and in my opinion with great juſtice, that all theſe whimſical tranſpoſitions of dignity are derived from the ancient *Saturnalia*, or *Feaſts of Saturn*, when the maſters waited upon their ſervants, who were honoured with mock titles, and permitted to aſſume the ſtate and deportment of their lords. Theſe fooleries were exceedingly popular, and continued to be practiſed long after the eſtabliſhment of Chriſtianity, in defiance of the threatenings and the remonſtrances of the clergy, who, finding it impoſſible to divert the ſtream of vulgar prejudice, permitted them to be exerciſed, but changed the primitive object of devotion; ſo that the ſame unhallowed orgies, which had diſgraced the worſhip of a heathen deity, were dedicated, as it was called, to the ſervice of the true God, and ſanctioned by the appellation of a Chriſtian inſtitution. From this polluted ſtock branched out a variety of unſeemly and immoral ſports; but none of them more daringly impious, and outrageous to common ſenſe, than the *feſtival of fools*, in which the moſt ſacred rites and ceremonies of the church were turned into ridicule, and the eccleſiaſtics themſelves participated in the abominable profanations. The following outlines of this abſurd diverſion will no doubt be thought ſufficient.

"In each of the cathedral churches there was a *biſhop*, or an *archbiſhop of fools*, elected; and in the churches immediately dependent upon the papal ſee a *pope of fools*. Theſe mock pontiffs had uſually a proper ſuit of eccleſiaſtics who attended upon them, and aſſiſted at the divine ſervice, moſt of them attired in ridiculous dreſſes, reſembling pantomimical players and buffoons; they were accompanied by large crowds of the laity, ſome being diſguiſed with maſks of a monſtrous faſhion, and others having their faces ſmutted; in one inſtance to frighten the beholders, and in the other to excite their laughter: and ſome, again, aſſuming the habits of females, practiſed all the wanton airs of the looſeſt and moſt abandoned of the ſex. During the divine ſervice this motley crowd were not contented with ſinging of indecent ſongs in the choir, but ſome of them ate, and drank, and played at dice, upon the altar, by the ſide of the prieſt who celebrated the maſs. After the ſervice they put filth into the cenſers, and ran about the church, leaping, dancing, laughing, ſinging, breaking obſcene jeſts, and expoſing themſelves in the moſt unſeemly attitudes with ſhameleſs impudence. Another part of theſe ridiculous ceremonies was, to ſhave the *precentor of fools* upon a ſtage erected before the church, in the preſence of the populace; and, during the operation, he amuſed them with lewd and vulgar diſcourſes, accompanied by actions equally reprehenſible. The *biſhop*, or the *pope of fools*, performed divine ſervice habited in the pontifical garments, and gave his benediction to the people before they quitted the church. He was afterwards ſeated in an open carriage, and drawn about to the different parts of the town, attended by a large train of eccleſiaſtics and laymen promiſcuouſly mingled together; and many of the moſt profligate of the latter aſſumed clerical habits, in order to give their impious fooleries the greater effect; they had alſo with them carts filled with ordure, which they threw occaſionally upon the populace

* Dugdale's Origines Juridiciales, fol. 247.

pulace assembled to see the procession. These spectacles were always exhibited at Christmas-time, or near to it, but not confined to one particular day. When the ceremony took place upon St. Stephen's-day, they sang, as part of the mass, a burlesque composition, called *The Prose of the Ass*, or *The Fool's Prose*. It was performed by a double choir, and at intervals, in place of a burden, they imitated the braying of an ass. Upon the festival of St. John the Evangelist, they had another arrangement of ludicrous sentences, denominated *The Prose of the Ox*, equally reprehensible."

Grotesque ceremonies, something similar to those above-mentioned, certainly took place in England; but probably they were not carried to that extent of impiety, nor so grossly offensive to decency. We had a *king of the fools*, but his office was suppressed at an early period, and not, that I remember, revived in the succeeding times. The election and the investment of the *boy-bishop* was certainly derived from the *festival of fools*.

In all the collegiate churches, at the feast of St. Nicholas, or of the Holy Innocents, and frequently at both, it was customary for one of the children of the choir, completely apparelled in the episcopal vestments, with a mitre and crosier, to bear the title and state of a bishop. He exacted a ceremonial obedience from his fellows, who, being dressed like priests, took possession of the church, and performed all the ceremonies and offices which might have been celebrated by a bishop and his prebendaries. Colet, dean of St Paul's, who, though he was "a wise and "good man," countenanced this idle farce; and, in the statutes for his school at St Paul's, expressly orders that the scholars "shall, every Chil- "dermas, *that is*, *Innocents*-day, come "to Paule's churche, and hear the "*childe bysshop*'s sermon, and after be "at hygh masse, and each of them "offer a penny to the childe bysshop; "and with them the maisters and "surveyors of the schole *." After having performed the divine service, the bishop and his associates went about to different parts of the town, and visited the religious houses, collecting money. These ceremonies and processions were formally abrogated by proclamation from the king and council, in the thirty-third year of Henry the Eighth; the concluding clause of the ordinance runs thus: "Whereas heretofore dyvers "and many superstitious and chyl- "dysh observances have been used, "and yet to this day are observed "and kept in many and sundry "places of this realm upon St. Ni- "cholas, St. Catherine's, St. Cle- "ments, and Holy Innocents, and "such like holy-daies; children be "strangelie decked and apparayled "to counterfeit priests, bishops, and "women, and so ledde with songs "and dances from house to house, "blessing the people, and gathering "of money; and boyes do singe "masse, and preache in the pulpits, "with such other unfitinge and in- "convenient usages, which tend ra- "ther to deryson than enie true "glorie to God, or honour of his "sayntes." This idle pageantry was revived by his daughter Mary; and in the second year of her reign an edict was issued from the bishop of London to all the clergy of his diocese, to have a boy-bishop in procession. The year following, "the "child-

* Knight's Life of Colet, p. 362; to which Warton adds, "I take this oppor- "tunity of intimating, that the custom at Eton of going *ad montem*, originated "from the ancient and popular practice of these theatrical processions in collegiate "bodies." Hist. Poet. ut supra.

" child biſhop, of Paule's church, " with his company," were admitted into the Queen's privy chamber, where he ſang before her on Saint Nicholas-day, and upon Holy Innocents-day. Again the next year, ſays Strype, " On Saint Nicholas-even, " *Saint Nicholas*, that is, a boy ha- " bited like a biſhop *in pontificalibus*, " went abroad in moſt parts of Lon- " don, ſinging after the old faſhion; " and was received with many igno- " rant, but well-diſpoſed people, into " their houſes, and had as much good " cheer as ever was wont to be had " before *." After the death of Mary this ſilly mummery was totally diſcontinued.

AN ACCOUNT OF ROBERT BLOOMFIELD, AUTHOR OF THE FARMER'S BOY.

ROBERT BLOOMFIELD was the youngeſt offspring of George Bloomfield, a taylor, and his wife Elizabeth †, a ſchool-miſtreſs in the village of Honington, in the hundred of Blackbourn, eight miles to the the north-eaſt of St Edmund's Bury, in Suffolk, and was born on the 3d of December 1776.

Before Robert was a twelvemonth old his father died, leaving his widow encumbered with ſix children. With the help of friends, ſhe managed to give each of them a little education; two or three month's inſtruction in writing, however, from Mr Rodwell, of Ixworth, was all the ſcholaſtic accompliſhment that Robert ever obtained.

At about eleven years of age, the late Mr W. Auſtin, a farmer of Sapiſton, who was married to the ſiſter of Bloomfield's mother, took him into his houſe, and employed him in his farmery; but, after ſome time, finding him ſo ſmall of his age as not to be likely to get his living by the hard labour neceſſary in that occupation, he ſignified the ſame to his mother; who, having re-married and got a ſecond young family to attend to, wrote immediately to two of his elder brothers, George and Nathaniel, (then ſettled in London,) for their advice and aſſiſtance; when the former readily offered to teach him to make ſhoes, and the latter undertook to clothe him. The mother came to London accordingly, and placed Robert in the care of his brother George ‡, charging the latter, " *as he valued a mother's bleſſing, to watch over him, to ſet good examples before him, and never to forget that he had loſt his father.*"

" It is cuſtomary, (ſays Mr Geo. Bloomfield, who at that time lived at No. 7. Fiſher's Court, Bell-Alley, Coleman-ſtreet,) in ſuch houſes as are let to poor people in London, to have light garrets fit for mechanics to work in. In the garret, where we

* We may obſerve that moſt of the churches in which theſe mock ceremonies were performed, had dreſſes and ornaments proper for the occaſion, and ſuited to the ſize of the wearers, but in every other reſpect reſembling thoſe appropriated to the real dignitaries of the church; hence it is we frequently meet with entries of diminutive habits and ornaments in the church inventories, as *una mitra parva cum petris pro epiſcopo puerorum*, that is, a *ſmall mitre*, with jewels for the *biſhop* of the *boys*. Invent. York Cathedral. See alſo Dugdale's Hiſt. of St. Paul's, p. 205.

† Daughter of Robert Manby.

‡ From whoſe communication to Mr Capel Loffft almoſt every thing that is known of our Poet has been derived. To Mr Loffft's kind attentions, indeed, the world is chiefly indebted for the emerſion from obſcurity of Robert Bloomfield, and the reſcue of his poem from oblivion.

we had two turn-up beds, and five of us worked, I received little Robert.

"As we were all ſingle men, lodgers at a ſhilling per week each, our beds were coarſe, and all things far from being clean and ſnug, like what Robert had left at Sapiſton. Robert was our man, to fetch all things to hand. At noon he fetched our dinner from the cook's ſhop: and any of our fellow-workmen that wanted to have any thing fetched in, would ſend him, and aſſiſt in his work and teach him, as a recompence for his trouble.

"Every day when the boy from the public-houſe came for the pewter-pots, and to hear what porter was wanted, he always brought the yeſterday's *newspaper*. The reading of the paper we had been uſed to take by turns; but after Robert came, he moſtly read for us,—becauſe his time was of leaſt value.

"He frequently met with words that he was unacquainted with: of this he often complained. I one day happened at a book ſtall to ſee a ſmall Dictionary, which had been very ill uſed. I bought it for him for fourpence. By the help of this, he in a little time could read and comprehend the long and beautiful ſpeeches of Burke, Fox, or North.

"One Sunday, after a whole day's ſtroll in the country, we by accident went into a diſſenting meeting-houſe in the Old Jewry, where a gentleman was lecturing. This man filled little Robert with aſtoniſhment. The houſe was amazingly crowded with the moſt genteel people; and though we were forced to ſtand ſtill in the aiſle, and were much preſſed, yet Robert always quickened his ſteps to get into the town on a Sunday evening ſoon enough to attend this Lecture.

"The Preacher lived ſomewhere at the weſt end of the town—his name was Fawcet. His language was juſt ſuch as the Rambler is written in: his action like a perſon acting a Tragedy: his diſcourſe rational, and free from the cant of Methodiſm.

"Of him Robert learned to accent what he called *hard* words; and otherwiſe improved himſelf; and gained the moſt enlarged notions of Providence.

"He went ſometimes with me to a *Debating Society* at *Coachmaker's Hall*, but not often; and a few times to *Covent Garden Theatre*. Theſe are all the opportunities he ever had to learn from public ſpeakers. As to books, he had to wade through two or three folios: an *Hiſtory of England*, *Britiſh Traveller*, and a *Geography*. But he always read them as a taſk, or to oblige us who bought them. And as they came in ſixpenny numbers weekly, he had about as many hours to read them as other boys ſpend in play.

"I at this time read the *London Magazine*; and in that work about two ſheets were ſet apart for a Review. Robert ſeemed always eager to read this review. Here he could ſee what the literary men were doing, and learn how to judge of the merit of the works that came out. And I obſerved that he always looked at the *Poet's Corner*. And one day he repeated a Song which he compoſed to an old tune. I was much ſurpriſed that a boy of ſixteen ſhould make ſo ſmooth verſes; ſo I perſuaded him to try whether the Editor of our paper would give them a place in Poet's Corner. And he ſucceeded, and they were printed. And as I forget his other early productions, I ſhall copy this.

THE MILK-MAID,

ON THE FIRST OF MAY.

I.

HAIL, MAY! lovely MAY! how repleniſh'd my pail!
The young dawn overſpreads the Eaſt ſtreak'd with gold!

My

My glad heart beats time to the laugh of the vale,
And Colin's voice rings through the woods from the fold.

II.

The wood to the mountain ſubmiſſively bends,
Whoſe blue miſty ſummits firſt glow with the ſun!
See thence a gay train by the wild rill deſcends
To join the glad ſports:—hark! the tumult's begun.

III.

Be cloudleſs, ye ſkies!---Be my Colin but there,
Not the dew-ſpangled bents on the wide level dale,
Nor morning's firſt bluſh can more lovely appear
Than his looks, ſince my wiſhes I could not conceal.

IV.

Swift down the mad dance, while bleſt health prompts to move,
We'll count joys to come, and exchange vows of truth;
And haply when age cools the tranſports of love,
Decry, like good folks, the vain pleaſures of youth.

I remember a little piece which he called *The Sailor's Return*, in which he tried to deſcribe the feelings of an honeſt Tar, who, after a long abſence, ſaw his dear native village firſt riſing into view. This too obtained a place in the Poet's Corner.

"And as he was ſo young, it ſhews ſome genius in him, and ſome induſtry, to have acquired ſo much knowledge of the uſe of words in ſo little time. Indeed, at this time myſelf and my fellow-workmen in the garret began to get inſtructions from him, though not more than ſixteen years old.

"About this time, there came a man to lodge at our lodgings that was troubled with fits. Robert was ſo much hurt to ſee this poor creature drawn into ſuch frightful forms, and to hear his horrid ſcreams, that I was forced to leave the lodging. We went to Blue Hart-court, Bell-alley. In our new garret we found a ſingular character, James Kay, a native of Dundee. He was a middle-aged man, of a good underſtanding, and yet a furious Calviniſt. He had many books,—and ſome which he did not value; ſuch as the Seaſons, Paradiſe Loſt, and ſome Novels. Theſe books he lent to Robert; who ſpent all his leiſure hours in reading the Seaſons, which he was now capable of reading. I never heard him give ſo much praiſe to any book as to that.

"I think it was in the year 1784 that the queſtion came to be decided between the *journeymen ſhoemakers*, whether thoſe who had learned without ſerving an *apprenticeſhip* could follow the trade.

"The man by whom Robert and I were employed, Mr Chamberlayne, of Cheapſide, took an active part againſt the lawful journeymen; and even went ſo far as to pay off every man that worked for him that had joined their clubs. This ſo exaſperated the men, that their acting Committee ſoon looked for *unlawful men* (as they called them) among Chamberlayne's workmen.

[They found out little Robert, and threatened to proſecute Chamberlayne for employing him, and to proſecute his brother, Mr G. Bloomfield, for teaching him. Chamberlayne requeſted of the brother to go on and bring it to a trial; for that he would defend it; and that neither George nor Robert ſhould be hurt.]

"Robert, naturally fond of peace, and fearful for my perſonal ſafety, begged to be ſuffered to retire from the ſtorm.

"He came home; and Mr Auſtin kindly bade him take his houſe for his home till he could return to me. And here, with his mind glowing with the fine deſcriptions of rural ſcenery which he found in Thomſon's Seaſons, he again retraced the very fields where firſt he began to think. Here,

Here, free from the ſmoke, the noiſe, the contention of the city, he imbibed that love of rural ſimplicity, and rural innocence which fitted him, in a great degree, to be the writer of ſuch a thing as *The Farmer's Boy*.

"Here he lived two months:—at length, as the diſpute in the trade ſtill remained undecided, Mr Dudbridge offered to take Robert apprentice, to ſecure him, at all events, from any conſequences of the litigation. [He was accordingly bound.]

"When I left London he was turned of eighteen; and much of my happineſs ſince has ariſen from a conſtant correſpondence which I have held with him.

"After I left him, he ſtudied *muſic*, and was a good player on the violin.

"But as my brother Nat had married a Woolwich woman, it happened that Robert took a fancy to a comely young woman of that town, whoſe father is a boat-builder in the Government yard there. His name is Church.

"Soon after he married, Robert told me in a letter, "he had ſold his fiddle and got a wife." Like moſt poor men, he got a wife firſt, and had to get houſehold ſtuff afterward. It took him ſome years to get out of ready-furniſhed lodgings. At length, by hard working, &c. he acquired a bed of his own, and hired the room up one pair of ſtairs, at 14. Bell-alley, Coleman-ſtreet. The landlord kindly gave him leave to ſit and work in the light garret, two pair of ſtairs higher.

"In this garret, amid ſix or ſeven other workmen, his active mind employed itſelf in compoſing *the Farmer's Boy*."

The MS. when completed, was put into the hands of Capel Lofft, Eſq. of Troſton, near Bury St Edmund's, who benevolently reviſed it, ſuperintended its progreſs through the preſs, and prefixed to it an ample biographical and critical memoir, from which we have above ſelected ſuch paſſages only as are given in the words of George Bloomfield; for Mr Lofft's remarks we muſt refer the reader to the work itſelf, which has already paſſed through ſeveral editions in 4to. 8vo. and 12mo *.

Reſpecting this admirable Poem, an anecdote has been related in a cotemporary publication † by a Mr Swan, who had been in company with Bloomfield, and communicated the following, with other particulars, in a letter to Mr Lofft:

"Among other ſubjects of converſation with reſpect to *The Farmer's Boy*, I wiſhed to be informed of his manner of compoſition. I enquired, as he compoſed it in a garret, amidſt the buſtle and noiſe of ſix or ſeven fellow-workmen, whether he uſed a ſlate, or wrote it on paper with a pencil, or pen and ink; but what was my ſurpriſe, when he told me that he had uſed neither!—My buſineſs, during the greateſt part of my life, having led me into the line of literary purſuits, and made me acquainted with literary men, I am conſequently pretty well informed of the methods uſed by authors for the retenſion of their productions. We are told, if my recollection is juſt, that Milton, when blind, took his daughters as his amanuenſes; that Savage, when his poverty precluded him from the conveniency of pen, ink, and paper, uſed to ſtudy in the ſtreets, and go into ſhops, to record the productions of his fertile genius; that Pope, when on viſits at Lord Bolingbroke's, uſed to ring up the ſervants at any hour in the night, for pen and ink, to write

* Lady's Monthly Muſeum, Vol. V. p. 147.

† A ſecond Volume, conſiſting of "Rural Tales and other Poems," in 4to. 8vo. and 12mo. was publiſhed about a month ago. The 5000 ſmall copies are nearly ſold off, and a ſecond edition is announced.

write any thought that ſtruck his lively and wakeful imagination; that Dr Blacklock, though blind, had the happy facility of writing down, in a very legible hand, the chaſte and elegant productions of his Muſe. With theſe, and many other methods of compoſition, we are acquainted; but that of a great part of the *Farmer's Boy*, in my opinion, ſtands firſt on the liſt of literary phenomena.—Sir, Mr Bloomfield, either from the contracted ſtate of his pecuniary reſources to purchaſe paper, or for other reaſons, compoſed the latter part of his Autumn, and the whole of his Winter, in his head, without committing one line to paper!—This cannot fail to ſurpriſe the literary world, who are well acquainted with the treacherouſneſs of memory, and how ſoon the moſt happy ideas, for want of ſufficient quickneſs in noting down, are loſt in the rapidity of thought!

"But this is not all—he went ſtill a ſtep farther:—he not only compoſed and committed that part of his work to his faithful and retentive memory, but he corrected it all in his head!!!—and, as he ſaid, when it was thus prepared——"I had nothing to do but to write it down!" ——By this new and wonderful mode of compoſition, he ſtudied and completed his *Farmer's Boy* in a garret, among ſix or ſeven of his fellow-workmen, without their ever once ſuſpecting or knowing any thing of the matter!"

Bloomfield's character as a Chriſtian, a huſband, and a parent, is repreſented to us as bearing a due proportion to his merit as a poet; and we ſhall conclude this account, with expreſſing our ſincere hope, that throughout life he may reſiſt the temptations and avoid the dangers that have ſo often proved fatal to untured genius.

EXTRACTS FROM MACKENZIE'S VOYAGES FROM MONTREAL, ON THE RIVER ST. LAURENCE, THROUGH THE CONTINENT OF NORTH AMERICA, TO THE FROZEN AND PACIFIC OCEANS, IN THE YEARS 1789 AND 1793; WITH A PRELIMINARY ACCOUNT OF THE RISE, PROGRESS, AND PRESENT STATE OF THE FUR TRADE OF THAT COUNTRY.

History of the Fur Trade—Grande Portage—Swan River—Beautiful Valley.

THE preliminary account, in this work, contains a general hiſtory of the Fur Trade, carried on by Canadian merchants. In the counting-houſe of one of theſe, ſays Mr Mackenzie, "I had been five years, and at this period had left him, with a ſmall adventure of goods, with which he had entruſted me, to ſeek my fortune at Detroit. He, without any ſolicitation on my part, had procured an inſertion in the agreement, that I ſhould be admitted a partner in this buſineſs, on condition that I would proceed to the Indian country in the following ſpring, 1785. His partner came to Detroit to make me ſuch a propoſition. I readily aſſented to it, and immediately proceeded to the Grande Portage, where I joined my aſſociates."

The author, aſſigning his reaſons for engaging in theſe voyages, ſays, "I was led at an early period of life, by commercial views, to the country north-weſt of Lake Superior, in North America; and being endowed by nature with an inquiſitive mind and enterpriſing ſpirit, poſſeſſing alſo a conſtitution and frame of body equal to the moſt arduous undertakings, and being familiar with toilſome exertions in the proſecution of mercantile purſuits, I not only attempted the practicability of penetrating acroſs the continent of America, but was confident in the qualifications, as I was

I was animated by the deſire, to undertake the perilous enterpriſe.

"The general utility of ſuch a diſcovery has been univerſally acknowledged, while the wiſhes of my particular friends and commercial aſſociates, that I ſhould proceed in the purſuit of it, continued to quicken the execution of this favourite project of my own ambition; and as the completion of it extends the boundaries of geographic ſcience, and adds new countries to the realms of Britiſh commerce, the dangers I have encountered, and the toils I have ſuffered, have found their recompence; nor will the many tedious and weary days, or the gloomy and inclement nights which I have paſſed, have been paſſed in vain.

"The firſt voyage has ſettled the dubious point of a practicable north-weſt paſſage; and I truſt that it has ſet that long agitated queſtion at reſt, and extinguiſhed the diſputes reſpecting it for ever. An enlarged diſcuſſion of this ſubject will be found to occupy the concluding pages of this volume.

"In this voyage, I was not only without the neceſſary books and inſtruments, but alſo felt myſelf deficient in the ſciences of aſtronomy and navigation: I did not heſitate, therefore, to undertake a winter's voyage to this country, in order to procure the one and acquire the other. Theſe objects being accompliſhed, I returned, to determine the practicability of a commercial communication through the continent of North America, between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, which is proved by my ſecond journal. Nor do I heſitate to declare my decided opinion, that very great and eſſential advantages may be derived by extending our trade from one ſea to the other."

The hiſtory of the Fur Trade contains a particular account of the perſons engaged, and method of carrying on this traffic, an account of the eſtabliſhment of the north-weſt company, with a deſcription of the rivers and country thro' which they paſs, and the manners of Indians with whom they trade. The method of carrying on this traffic is by a number of canoes laden with goods, to exchange with the Indians for their furs, proviſion for the people employed, and ſuitable implements for their voyage. "An European, on ſeeing one of theſe ſlender veſſels laden, heaped up, and ſunk with her gunwale within ſix inches of the water, would think his fate inevitable in ſuch a boat, when he reflected on the nature of her voyage; but the Canadians are ſo expert that few accidents happen."

On account of rapids and falls in the waters, this employment is very laborious, as the men are frequently obliged to carry not only the greater part of the lading, but the canoes, and that often over rocks: of theſe places the author gives particular accounts, one of which is ſubjoined.

"The Portage La Loche, where the canoes with their lading are carried, is thirteen miles in length, and is a level, until you come within a mile of the termination of the Portage, where there is a very ſteep precipice, whoſe aſcent and deſcent appear to be equally impracticable in any way, as it conſiſts of a ſucceſſion of eight hills, ſome of which are almoſt perpendicular; nevertheleſs, the Canadians contrive to ſurmount all theſe difficulties, even with their canoes and lading.

"This precipice, which riſes upwards of a thouſand feet above the plain beneath it, commands a moſt extenſive, romantic, and raviſhing proſpect. From thence the eye looks down on the courſe of the little river, by ſome called the Swan river, and by others the Clear Water and Pelican River, beautifully meandering for upwards of thirty miles. The valley, which is at once refreſhed and adorned

adorned by it, is about three miles in breadth, and is confined by two lofty ridges of equal height, diſplaying a moſt delightful intermixture of wood and lawn, and ſtretching on till the blue miſt obſcures the proſpect. Some parts of the inclining heights are covered with ſtately foreſts, relieved by promontories of the fineſt verdure, where the elk and buffalo find paſture. Theſe are contraſted by ſpots where fire has deſtroyed the woods, and left a dreary void behind it. Nor, when I beheld this wonderful diſplay of uncultivated nature, was the moving ſcenery of human occupation wanting to compleat the picture. From this elevated ſituation I beheld my people, diminiſhed as it were to half their ſize, employed in pitching their tents in a charming meadow, and among the canoes, which, being turned upon their ſides, preſented their reddened bottoms in contraſt with the ſurrounding verdure. At the ſame time the proceſs of gumming them produced numerous ſmall ſpires of ſmoke, which, as they roſe, enlivened the ſcene, and at length blended with the larger columns that aſcended from the fires where the ſuppers were preparing. It was in the month of September when I enjoyed a ſcene of which I do not preſume to give any adequate deſcription; and as it was the rutting ſeaſon of the elk, the whiſtling of that animal was heard in all the variety which the echoes could afford it."

Arrival at Fort Chepewyan—Method of Fiſhing in the Lake of the Hills.

The preſent eſtabliſhment of the north-weſt company is in latitude 58. 38 north, longitude 110. 26 weſt, called Fort Chypewyan, and formed on a point on the ſouthern ſide of the Lake of the Hills, the arrival at which place from Canada the author thus deſcribes:

"Here have I arrived, with ninety or an hundred men, without any proviſion for their ſubſiſtence; for whatever quantity might have been obtained from the natives during the ſummer, it could not be more than ſufficient for the people diſpatched to the different ports; and even if there were a caſual ſuperfluity, it was abſolutely neceſſary to preſerve it untouched for the demands of the ſpring. The whole dependence, therefore, of thoſe who remained, was on the lake, and fiſhing implements, for the means of our ſupport. The nets are ſixty fathoms in length, when ſet, and contain fifteen meſhes, of five inches in depth.

"The manner of uſing them is as follows: A ſmall ſtone and wooden buoy are faſtened to the ſide-line, oppoſite to each other, at about the diſtance of two fathoms, when the net is carefully thrown into the water, the ſtone ſinks it to the bottom, while the buoy keeps it at its full extent, and it is ſecure in its ſituation by a ſtone at either end. The nets are viſited every day, and taken out every other day, to be cleaned and dried. This is a very ready operation when the waters are not frozen, but when the froſt has ſet in, and the ice has acquired its greateſt thickneſs, which is ſometimes as much as five feet, holes are cut in it at the diſtance of thirty feet from each other to the full length of the net; one of them is larger than the reſt, being generally about four feet ſquare, and is called the baſon: by means of them and poles of a proportionable length, the nets are placed in and drawn out of the water. The ſetting of hooks and lines is ſo ſimple an employment as to render a deſcription unneceſſary. The white fiſh are the principal object of purſuit; they ſpawn in the fall of the year, and, at about the ſetting in of the hard froſt, crowd in ſhoals to the ſhallow water, when as many as poſſible are taken, in order that a portion of them may be laid by in the froſt to provide againſt the

ſcarcity

ſcarcity of winter; as, during that ſeaſon, the fiſh of every deſcription decreaſe in the lakes, if they do not altogether diſappear. Some have ſuppoſed that during this period they are ſtationary, or aſſume an inactive ſtate. If there ſhould be any intervals of warm weather during the fall, it is neceſſary to ſuſpend the fiſh by the tail, though they are not ſo good as thoſe which are altogether preſerved by the froſt. In this ſtate they remain till the beginning of April, when they have been found as ſweet as when they were caught *."

Accounts of the Knisteneaux and Chepewyan Indians.

The formerare a people ſpread over a vaſt extent of country, of whoſe manners the following account is given: "They have frequent feaſts, and particular circumſtances never fail to produce them; ſuch as a tedious illneſs, long faſting, &c. On theſe occaſions it is uſual for the perſon who gives the entertainment, to announce his deſign, on a certain day, of opening his medicine bag, and ſmoking out of his ſacred ſtem. This declaration is conſidered as a ſacred vow that cannot be broken. There are alſo ſtated periods, ſuch as the ſpring and autumn, when they engage in very long and ſolemn ceremonies. On theſe occaſions dogs are offered as ſacrifices, and thoſe which are very fat, and milk-white, are preferred. They alſo make large offerings of their property, whatever it may be. The ſcene of theſe ceremonies is in an open incloſure on the bank of a river or lake, and in the moſt conſpicuous ſituation, in order that ſuch as are paſſing along or travelling, may be induced to make their offerings. There is alſo a particular cuſtom among them, that on theſe occaſions, if any of the tribe, or even a ſtranger ſhould be paſſing by, and be in real want of any thing that is diſplayed as an offering, he has a right to take it, ſo that he replaces it with ſome article he can ſpare, though it be of far inferior value; but to take or touch any thing wantonly is conſidered as a ſacrilegious act, and highly inſulting to the great Maſter of life, to uſe their own expreſſion, who is the ſacred object of their devotion.

The ſcene of private ſacrifice is the lodge of the perſon who performs it, which is prepared for that purpoſe by removing every thing out of it, and ſpreading green branches in every part. The fire and aſhes are alſo taken away. A new hearth is made of freſh earth, and another fire is lighted. The owner of the dwelling remains alone in it; and he begins the ceremony by ſpreading a piece of new cloth, or a well dreſſed mouſe-ſkin neatly painted, on which he opens his medicine bag, and expoſes its contents, conſiſting of various articles. The principal of them is a kind of houſehold god, which is a ſmall carved image about eight inches long. Its firſt covering is of down, over which a piece of birch bark is cloſely tied, and the whole is enveloped in ſeveral folds of red and blue cloth. This little figure is an object of the moſt pious regard. The next article is his war-cap, which is decorated with the feathers and plumes of ſcarce birds, beavers, and eagles' claws, &c. There is alſo ſuſpended from it a quill or feather for every enemy whom the owner of it has ſlain in battle. The remaining contents of the bag are, a piece of Brazil tobacco, ſeveral roots and ſimples, which are in great eſtimation for their medicinal qualities, and a pipe. Theſe articles being all expoſed,

* This fiſhery requires the moſt unremitting attention, as the voyaging Canadians are equally indolent, extravgant, and improvident, when left to themſelves, and rival the ſavages in a neleſt of the morrow.

poſed, and the ſtem reſting upon two forks, as it muſt not touch the ground, the maſter of the lodge ſends for the perſon he moſt eſteems, who ſits down oppoſite to him; the pipe is then filled and fixed to the ſtem. A pair of wooden pincers is provided to put the fire in the pipe, and a double-pointed pin, to empty it of the remnant of tobacco which is not conſumed. This arrangement being made, the men aſſembled, and ſometimes the women are allowed to be humble ſpectators, while the moſt religious awe and ſolemnity pervades the whole. The Michiniwais, or aſſiſtant, takes up the pipe, lights it, and preſents it to the officiating perſon, who receives it ſtanding, and holds it between both his hands. He then turns himſelf to the eaſt, and draws a few whiffs, which he blows to that point. The ſame ceremony he obſerved to the other three quarters, with his eyes directed upwards during the whole of it. He holds the ſtem about the middle between the three firſt fingers of both hands, and raiſing them upon a line with his forehead, he ſwings it three times round from the eaſt, with the ſun, when after pointing and balancing it in various directions, he repoſes it on the forks: he then makes a ſpeech to explain the deſign of their being called together, which concludes with an acknowledgement of paſt mercies, and a prayer for the continuance of them, from the Maſter of life. He then ſits down, and the whole company declare their approbation and thanks by uttering the word HO! with an emphatic prolongation of the laſt letter. The Michiniwais then takes up the pipe, and holds it to the mouth of the officiating perſon, who after ſmoking three whiffs out of it, utters a ſhort prayer, and then goes round with it, taking his courſe from eaſt to weſt, to every perſon preſent, who individually ſays ſomething to him on the occaſion; and thus the pipe is generally ſmoked out; when after turning it three or four times round his head, he drops it downwards, and replaces it in its original ſituation. He then returns the company thanks for their attendance, and wiſhes them, as well as the whole tribe, health and long life.

The Chepewyan Indians are a numerous people, who conſider the country between the parallels of latitude 60 and 65 north, and longitude 100 to 110 weſt, as their lands or home.

The notion which this people entertain of the creation, is of a very ſingular nature. They believe that, at the firſt, the globe was one vaſt and entire ocean, inhabited by no living creature, except a mighty bird, whoſe eyes were fire, whoſe glances were lightning, and the clapping of whoſe wings were thunder. On his deſcent to the ocean, and touching it, the earth inſtantly aroſe, and remained on the ſurface of the waters. This omnipotent bird then called forth all the variety of animals from the earth, except the Chepewyans, who were produced from a dog, and this circumſtance occaſions an averſion to the fleſh of that animal, as well as the people who eat it. This extraordinary tradition proceeds to relate, that the great bird, having finiſhed his work, made an arrow, which was to be preſerved with great care, and to remain untouched; but that the Chepewyans were ſo devoid of underſtanding as to carry it away: and the ſacrilege ſo enraged the great bird, that he has never ſince appeared.

"They have alſo a tradition amongſt them, that they originally came from another country inhabited by very wicked people, and had traverſed a great lake, which was narrow, ſhallow, and full of iſlands, where they had ſuffered great miſery, it being always winter, with ice and deep ſnow. At the Copper-Mine River, where they made

made the firſt land, the ground was covered with copper, over which a body of earth had ſince been collected to the depth of a man's height. They believe, alſo, in the ancient times their anceſtors lived till their feet were worn out with walking, and their throats with eating. They deſcribe a deluge, when the waters ſpread over the whole earth, except the higheſt mountains, on the tops of which they preſerved themſelves.

They believe, that immediately after their death, they paſs into another world, where they arrive at a large river, on which they embark in a ſtone canoe, and that a gentle current bears them on to an extenſive lake, in the centre of which is a moſt beautiful iſland; and that in the view of this delightful abode, they receive that judgment for their conduct during life, which terminates their final ſtate and unalterable allotment. If their good actions are declared to predominate, they are landed upon the iſland, where there is to be no end of their happineſs; which, however, according to their notions, conſiſts in an eternal enjoyment of ſenſual pleaſure and carnal gratification. But if their bad actions weigh down the balance, the ſtone canoe ſinks at once, and leaves them up to their chins in the water, to behold and regret the reward enjoyed by the good, and eternally ſtruggling, but with unavailing endeavours, to reach the bliſsful iſland, from which they are excluded for ever."

Manner of performing the Voyages.

The journal of the firſt voyage to the North Sea comprehends a circumſtantial account of the occurrences of one hundred and two days. The Author embarked in a canoe of birch bark, with "four Canadians, two of whom were attended by their wives, and a German, accompanied by an Indian and his two wives, in a ſmall canoe, with two young Indians, his followers, in another ſmall canoe:" he performed this perilous and laborious enterpriſe, expoſed to the inclemency of climate, the labour of frequently carrying the canoe, and lading, in places very difficult to travel; and the diſpoſition and conduct of the different Indians thro' whoſe villages they paſſed. This voyage was made in the months of June, July, and Auguſt, 1789.

The ſecond voyage, which was made to the Pacific Ocean, was performed in eleven months, from October 10, 1792, to Auguſt 24, 1793.

The author informs us, that with nine perſons he embarked in a canoe, "the dimenſions of which were twenty-five feet long within, excluſive of the curves of ſtem and ſtern, twenty-ſix inches hold, and four feet nine inches beam. At the ſame time ſhe was ſo light, that two men could carry her on a good road three or four miles without reſting. In this ſlender veſſel, we ſhipped proviſions, goods for preſents, arms, ammunition, and baggage to the weight of three thouſand pounds, and an equipage of ten people."

In one part of this voyage it was agreed to leave the canoe, and what they could not carry, which having ſecured, they began their journey. We may judge of their difficulties by the following account: "We carried on our backs four bags and a half of pemmican *, weighing from eighty-five

* The proviſion called *pemmican*, on which the Chepewyans, as well as the other ſavages of this country, chiefly ſubſiſt in their journies, is prepared in the following manner: The lean parts of the fleſh of the larger animals are cut in thin ſlices, and are placed on a wooden grate over a ſlow fire, or expoſed to the ſun, and ſometimes to the froſt. Theſe operations dry it, and in that ſtate it is pounded between two ſtones; it will then keep for ſeveral years. If, however, it is kept in large

five to ninety pounds each; a caſe with my inſtruments, a parcel of goods for preſents, weighing ninety pounds, and a parcel containing ammunition of the ſame weight. Each of the Canadians had a burden of about ninety pounds, with a gun, and ſome ammunition. The Indians had about forty-five pounds weight of pemmican to carry, beſides their gun, &c. with which they were very much diſſatisfied, and if they dared, would have inſtantly left us. They had hitherto been very much indulged, but the moment was now arrived when indulgence was no longer practicable. My own load, and that of Mr Mackay, conſiſted of twenty-two pounds of pemmican, ſome rice, a little ſugar, &c. amounting in the whole to about ſeventy pounds each, beſides our arms and ammunition. I had alſo the tube of my teleſcope ſwung acroſs my ſhoulders, which was a troubleſome addition to my burden. It was determined we ſhould content ourſelves with two meals a-day, which was regulated without difficulty, as our proviſion did not require the ceremony of cooking."

Account of the treatment of the Dead, —Deſcription of the Indian Burying-places.

"At one in the afternoon we came to a houſe of the ſame conſtruction ahd dimenſions as have already been mentioned, but the materials were much better prepared and finiſhed. The timber was ſquared on two ſides, and the bark taken off the two others; the ridge-pole was alſo ſhaped in the ſame manner, extending about eight or ten feet beyond the gable end, and ſupporting a ſhed over the door; the end of it was carved into the ſimilitude of a ſnake's head. Several hieroglyphics and figures of a ſimilar workmanſhip, and painted with red earth, decorated the interior of the building. The inhabitants had left the houſe but a ſhort time, and there were ſeveral bags or bundles in it, which I did not ſuffer to be diſturbed. Near it were two tombs, ſurrounded in a neat manner with boards, and covered with bark. Beſides them ſeveral poles had been erected, one of which was ſquare, and all of them painted.—From each of them were ſuſpended ſeveral rolls or parcels of bark, and our guide gave the following account of them, which, as far as we could judge, from our imperfect knowledge of the language, and the incidental errors of interpretation, appeared to involve two different modes of treating their dead; or it might be one and the ſame ceremony, which we did not diſtinctly comprehend: at all events, it is the practice of this people to burn the bodies of their dead, except the larger bones, which are rolled up in bark and ſuſpended from poles, as I have already deſcribed. According to the other account, it appeared that they actually bury their dead; and when another of the family dies, the remains of the perſon who was laſt interred are taken from the grave and burned, as has been already mentioned; ſo that the members of a family are thus ſucceſſively

large quantities, it is diſpoſed to ferment in the ſpring of the year, when it muſt be expoſed to the air, or it will ſoon decay. The inſide fat, and that of the rump, which is much thicker in theſe wild, than in our domeſtic animals, is melted down and mixed, in a boiling ſtate, with the pounded meat in equal proportions, it is then put in baſkets or bags for the convenience of carrying it. Thus it becomes a nutritious food, and is eaten without any further preparation, or the addition of ſalt, ſpice, or any vegetable or farinaceous ſubſtance. A little time reconciles it to the palate. There is another ſort made with the addition of marrow and dried berries, which is of a ſuperior quality.

ſucceſſively buried and burned, to make room for each other; and one tomb proves ſufficient for a family thro' ſucceeding generations. There is no houſe in this country without a tomb in its vicinity.

Arrival at an Indian Village, with a Banquet of Ceremony.

As we approached the edge of the wood, and were almoſt in ſight of the houſes, the Indians who were before me made ſigns for me to take the lead, and that they would follow. The noiſe and confuſion of the natives now ſeemed to increaſe, and when we came in ſight of the village we ſaw them running from houſe to houſe, ſome armed with bows and arrows, others with ſpears, and many with axes, as if in a ſtate of great alarm. This very unpleaſant and unexpected circumſtance, I attributed to our ſudden arrival, and the very ſhort notice of it which had been given them. At all events, I had but one line of conduct to purſue, which was to walk reſolutely up to them, without manifeſting any ſign of apprehenſion at their hoſtile appearance. This reſolution produced the deſired effect, for as we approached the houſes, the greater part of the people laid down their weapons, and came forward to meet us. I was, however, ſoon obliged to ſtop from the number of them that ſurrounded me. I ſhook hands, as uſual, with ſuch as were the neareſt to me, when an elderly man broke through the crowd, and took me in his arms; another then came, who turned him away without the leaſt ceremony, and paid me the ſame compliment. The latter was followed by a young man, whom I underſtood to be his ſon. Theſe embraces, which at firſt rather ſurpriſed me, I ſoon found to be marks of regard and friendſhip. The crowd preſſed with ſo much violence and contention to get a view of us, that we could not move in any direction. An opening was at length made to allow a perſon to approach me, whom the old man made me underſtand was another of his ſons. I inſtantly ſtepped forward to meet him, and preſented my hand, whereupon he broke the ſtring of a very handſome robe of ſea-otter ſkin, which he had on, and covered me with it. This was as flattering a reception as I could poſſibly receive, eſpecially as I conſidered him to be the eldeſt ſon of the chief. Indeed it appeared to me that we had been detained here for the purpoſe of giving him time to bring the robe with which he had preſented me.

The chief now made ſigns for us to follow him, and he conducted us through a narrow coppice for ſeveral hundred yards, till we came to an houſe built on the ground, which was of larger dimenſions, and formed of better materials than any I had hitherto ſeen; it was his reſidence. We were no ſooner arrived there than he directed mats to be ſpread before us, on which we were told to take our ſeats, when the men of the village, who came to indulge their curioſity, were ordered to keep behind us. In our front other mats were placed, where the chief and his counſellors took their ſeats. In the intervening ſpace, mats, which were very clean, and of a much neater workmanſhip than thoſe on which we ſat, were alſo ſpread, and a ſmall roaſted ſalmon placed before each of us. When we had ſatisfied ourſelves with the fiſh, one of the people who came with us from the laſt village, approached with a kind of ladle in one hand containing oil, and in the other ſomething that reſembled the inner rind of the cocoa-nut, but of a lighter colour; this he dipped in the oil, and having eaten it, indicated, by his geſtures, how palatable he thought it. He then preſented me with a ſmall piece of it, which I choſe to taſte in its dry ſtate, though the oil was free from any

any unpleaſant ſmell. A ſquare cake of this was next produced, when a man took it to the water near the houſe, and having thoroughly ſoaked it, he returned, and after he had pulled it to pieces like oakum, put it into a well-made trough, about three feet long, nine inches wide, and five deep; he then plentifully ſprinkled it with ſalmon oil, and manifeſted, by his own example, that we were to eat of it. I juſt taſted it, and found the oil perfectly ſweet, without which the other ingredient would have been very inſipid. The chief partook of it with great avidity, after it had received an additional quantity of oil. This diſh is conſidered by theſe people as a great delicacy; and, on examination, I diſcovered it to conſiſt of the inner bark of the hemlock tree, taken off early in ſummer, and put into a frame, which ſhapes it into cakes of fifteen inches long, ten broad, and half an inch thick; and in this form I ſhould ſuppoſe it may be preſerved for a great length of time.

EXTRACTS FROM THE LIFE OF BONAPARTE, FIRST CONSUL OF FRANCE, FROM HIS BIRTH TO THE PEACE OF LUNEVILLE.

His Birth.—Particulars of his Youth.—The Siege of Toulon.

NAPOLEONE BONAPARTE was born at Ajaccio, in Corſica, on the 15th of Auguſt 1769. He was brought early into France, and was placed in the military ſchool of Brienne in Champagne, under the direction of the fathers, called Minims; where the education he received developed in him the hidden germs of talents and genius.

In his youth, almoſt in his infancy, he diſplayed an energy, and a certain degree of pride, that would be a fault in an inferior character, but which appears almoſt invariably to ſhow itſelf in thoſe deſigned for an extraordinary and eccentric career, and to be a marked and diſtinguiſhing quality of their minds.

While a pupil at the college of Brienne, he formed his little garden with his own hands, and fortified it, as well as he was able, againſt the attacks of his enemies. In this garden he was fond of ſhutting himſelf up, to walk and to meditate; and he paſſed there almoſt all his hours of recreation, with a book of philoſophy or mathematics in his hand, his mind ſeeming to diſdain all lower occupations and leſs important ſtudies. The youths of the college were unfortunate enough, in letting off ſome fireworks, to injure his little property; and he made them repent their careleſſneſs. His ſchool-fellows feared, but they eſteemed him at the ſame time, and may be ſaid even to revere him.

The only ſports he was fond of were thoſe which required thought, or were a type of the military art. He inſpired ſeveral of his companions with the ſame inclination, and taught them the military exerciſe, in which he conducted himſelf ſo well, that they were led to ſay, *does he not appear born to command?*

As it is natural to take pleaſure in viewing the firſt efforts of an heroic mind, and tracing in their dawn thoſe eminent qualities which are one day to command the reſpect and admiration of the world, we ſhall here recite a few anecdotes of the childhood and youth of the Firſt Conſul. The following circumſtances are little known, but they are real facts. They come from Baron L——r, a ſchool-fellow of the Conſul's and the friend of his childhood. Before he had made any figure, or his name had been even mentioned in any political connection in France, Baron L——r ſaid, *I wish I knew what is become of a ſchool-fellow of mine, of the name of Bonaparte; his whole heart muſt be in the revolution.*

They had been at the military ſchool

ſchool at Brienne together, had left it at the ſame time to go to Paris, and were in habits of cloſe intimacy while they continued there. "Bonaparte," ſays he, "always ſhowed the moſt lively intereſt in the ſucceſs of the patriots of Corſica when in arms: he liſtened eagerly to all news from his country: Paoli was his god; he never mentioned him, or his native ſoil, without enthuſiaſm. Some of the French officers who had been in Corſica, would now and then repair to the military ſchool, and, talking of the war, would give the moſt exaggerated accounts of their ſucceſs againſt the Corſicans: Bonaparte quietly ſuffered them to talk on, aſking them occaſionally a ſhrewd queſtion or two; but when he was certain he could prove their having falſified a fact, he would exclaim eagerly;—"Are you not aſhamed, for a momentary gratification of vanity, to calumniate in this manner a whole nation! You ſay there were ſix *hundred* of you only in the engagement: I know you were ſix *thouſand*; and that you were oppoſed only by a few wretched peaſants!" He would then open his journals and maps, and he generally ended his declamation with ſaying to his friend—"*Come, L——r, let us leave theſe daſtards.*" L——r followed and pacified him.

At the time of his confirmation, when the archbiſhop aſked his name, Bonaparte anſwered it with an openneſs and confidence that formed a ſingular contraſt with the timid and downcaſt looks of his comrades. The name of Napoleone being rather uncommon, eſcaped the archbiſhop, who deſired him to repeat it, which Bonaparte did, with a little appearance of impatience. The aſſiſting miniſter remarked to the prelate, "Napoleone! I do not know that ſaint."—"Parbleu, I believe it," replied Bonaparte, "the ſaint is a Corſican."

His valour being noticed by the repreſentatives with the army, at the ſiege of Toulon, he was advanced, from an officer in a company of artillery, to the rank of general of brigade. He was ſoon appointed general in chief of the army of Italy, after the French had received a check by the arrival of General Wurmſer, and obliged to raiſe the ſiege of Mantua, and the number of troops with Bonaparte amounted only to twelve hundred men. At this time an officer arrived from the enemy's quarters, requeſting a parley. He was brought hoodwinked before the general: his errand was to declare, that the left wing of the French army was ſurrounded, and that his general wiſhed to know, whether the reſt were willing to ſurrender.

"Go, tell your general, replied Bonaparte, if his intention be to inſult the French army, that I am here; that it is he and his corps who are priſoners; that one of his columns is cut off by our troops at Salo, in their way from Breſcia to Trent, and that if he do not lay down his arms in eight minutes from this time, or if he ſuffer a ſingle muſket to be fired, every ſoul ſhall periſh with him. Take the bandage from the gentleman's eyes: let him ſee General Bonaparte and his ſtaff in the midſt of an army of brave republicans. Tell your general he has a good prize to take." The Auſtrians demanded time to deliberate; during which, every thing was preparing for the attack. The leader of the enemy's column deſiring to be heard, propoſed to ſurrender on capitulation. "No," replied Bonaparte, "you are priſoners of war." The enemy ſtill heſitating, Bonaparte ordered the light artillery to advance, and begin the attack. The Auſtrian general then exclaimed: "*We ſurrender unconditionally.*"

Thus three Auſtrians battalions, conſiſting of four thouſand men and two hundred hulans, having the advantage of four pieces of cannon, and drawn

drawn up in order of battle, laid down their arms to twelve hundred republicans.

On the night enſuing the long and dreadful battle of Arcola, Bonaparte diſguiſed himſelf in the dreſs of an inferior officer, and traverſed the camp. In the courſe of his round he diſcovered a centinel leaning on the butt-end of his muſket in a profound ſleep. Bonaparte, taking the muſket from under him, placed his head gently on the ground, and kept watch for two hours in his ſtead; at the end of which the regular guard came to relieve him. On awakening, the ſoldier was aſtoniſhed at ſeeing a young officer doing duty for him; but when, looking more attentively, he recogniſed in this officer the commander in chief, his aſtoniſhment was converted into terror, "The general!——Bonaparte!" he exclaimed; "I am then undone." Bonaparte, with the utmoſt gentleneſs, replied, "Not ſo, fellow ſoldier; recover yourſelf: after ſo much fatigue, a brave man like you may be allowed for a while to ſleep; but, in future, chooſe your time better."

At the ſigning of the preliminaries at Leoben, which were the baſis of the treaty of Campo-Formio, the Emperor ſent three of the principal nobility of his court as hoſtages. Bonaparte received them with every mark of diſtinction; invited them to dine with him, and at the deſert ſaid to them, "Gentlemen, you are free; tell your maſter, that if his imperial word require a pledge, you cannot ſerve as ſuch; and if it require none, that you ought not."

Effects a Revolution in Paris.

Having diſſolved the meeting of the Council of Five Hundred, by his ſoldiers; his arrival was announced to the Council of Ancients, who were aſſembled at St Cloud, and he begged leave to make ſome important communications. A complete ſilence enſued, when he addreſſed them in the following extempore diſcourſe:

"Repreſentatives of the people, you are not under common circumſtances; you are placed on a volcano; permit me to ſpeak to you with the candour of a ſoldier, with the frankneſs of a citizen, zealous for the welfare of his country; and ſuſpend, I beſeech you, your judgment till I have finiſhed what I have to ſay.

"I was living peaceably at Paris when I received the decree of the Council of Ancients, which informed me of their dangers, and of thoſe of the republic. I haſtened to aſſemble my brother ſoldiers, and we came to give you our aſſiſtance. Our intentions were pure and diſintereſted; as a reward for our ſervices, yeſterday they loaded us with calumnies, and talked of a modern Cæſar, a ſecond Cromwell; they reported that I intended to eſtabliſh a military government.

"If I had wiſhed to cruſh the liberty of my country, if I had wiſhed to uſurp the ſupreme authority, I ſhould not have obeyed the orders you gave me; I ſhould have had no occaſion for the mandate of the ſenate. More than once, in extremely favourable circumſtances, have I been called to take the reins of government. After our triumphs in Italy, I was invited to it by the deſire of the nation, by the requeſt of my comrades, and by that of the ſoldiers who have been oppreſſed in my abſence; of the ſoldiers who are ſtill obliged to carry on a moſt horrible war in the departments, which wiſdom and order had calmed, and which folly and treaſon have again lighted up.

"The country has not a more zealous defender than myſelf; I am entirely devoted to the execution of your orders; but it is on you alone that its ſafety depends, for the Directory is no more; four of the magiſtrates who compoſed it have given in their reſignations; dangers preſs hard;

hard; the evil augments; the miniſter of police has juſt informed me that, in La Vendee, ſeveral places are already fallen into the hands of the Chouans. The Council of Ancients is inveſted with great power; but it is alſo animated by ſtill greater wiſdom; conſult that alone, and the near approach of danger: prevent diſturbances; let us endeavour to preſerve the two things for which we have made ſo many ſacrifices,—liberty and equality."

"And what is to become of the conſtitution of the third year?" cried a deputy, ſuddenly interrupting the orator.

"The conſtitution!" replied Bonaparte. "Does it become you to name it? Is it at preſent any thing more than a ruin? Has it not been ſucceſſively the ſport of every party? Have you not trampled on it on the 18th Fructidor, 28th Floreal and 28th Prairial?—The conſtitution! has not every ſpecies of tyranny been exerciſed in its name from the day of its eſtabliſhment? Who can in future be guaranteed by it? Is not its inſufficiency atteſted by the numerous outrages committed under its ſanction, by the very people who are ſwearing to it a deriſory fidelity? All the rights of the people have been indignantly violated: and it is to eſtabliſh them on a firm foundation that we muſt labourto conſolidate the liberty and republic of France." &c.

In a former addreſs to the ancients, Bonaparte uſed theſe words, *We will ſave the republic and liberty*, when he was interrupted by a voice, exclaiming, *Who will anſwer for it? Grenadiers!* cried the general, turning towards his fellow-ſoldiers, *ſay if ever I deceived you when I promiſed you victory?*

Familiar methods he employed to excite the courage, and ſecure the affections of his Soldiers in Italy.

He advanced towards the twelfth regiment of chaſſeurs, and ordered the chief of brigade to ſay to the regiment, That he was very much ſatiſfied with their behaviour; that it was owing to the impetuoſity of their charge at Chatillon that the battle was won; that the cavalry were going to be united; and that at the next battle he wiſhed them to charge the enemy's cavalry, to cure them of their pride and vain boaſts of being ſuperior to us in manœuvres and bravery.

He ſaid to the twenty-eighth of the line, That, as a proof their good conduct was highly pleaſing to him, he would march at the head of the van-guard in the next encounter. *For two years paſt*, ſaid he, *you have been paſſing and re-paſſing theſe mountains, and you are ſtedfaſt in your duty without murmuring; this is the firſt quality of a good ſoldier. I know that eight months pay was due to you a week ago, and nevertheleſs you have not made the leaſt complaint.*

The French army was falling into diſorder, and began to ſound a retreat, when the preſence of the Firſt Conſul re-animated their courage: *My lads*, ſaid he, *recollect that my cuſtom is to ſleep on the field of battle.*

When the miniſter of police diſcovered the firſt deſign of an attempt upon his life, he went to receive the Firſt Conſul's orders upon the ſubject.—*Theſe are not my affairs*, replied he, *they are yours.*—Will you go to the Opera?—*Undoubtedly.*"

After the armiſtice concluded with the Emperor, General Moreau arrived at Paris, on the 26th Vendemiaire, at ten o'clock in the morning. He went immediately to viſit the Firſt Conſul, who was then at the Council of State. He had not left the ſaloon when the miniſter of the interior brought in a ſuperb brace of piſtols, of exquiſite workmanſhip, and enriched with diamonds. The directory had ordered them to be made for a preſent to ſome foreign prince, and

and they had ſince remained at the houſe of the miniſter of the interior. Theſe piſtols were thought very beautiful. *They come very a-propos*, ſaid the Firſt Conſul, preſenting them to General Moreau; then turning towards the miniſter of the interior—*Citizen Miniſter*, ſaid he, let ſome of the battles which General Moreau has gained, be engraved on them;—but not all; they would occaſion too many diamonds to be taken away; the General indeed attaches no great value to theſe, but the deſign of the artiſt muſt not be wholly deranged."

Portrait of Bonaparte.

Like Alexander, he is of the middle ſtature, of a pale and delicate, though tolerably ſtrong complexion, dark eyes, aquiline noſe, the chin prominent, the forehead wide, and the whole countenance indicative of a diſcerning and elevated mind.

He is habitually of a taciturn and contemplative diſpoſition: yet is not devoid of the French politeneſs and gaity. To a courage at once ardent and daring, he unites a coolneſs which nothing can derange; to the vaſt conceptions of genius, all thoſe ſtratagems of war which Hannibal practiſed ſo ably againſt the Romans; the deepeſt reflection to the moſt rapid execution; all the impetuoſity of youth to the experience of riper years; the ſagacity of the politician to the talents of a great general; and, laſtly, to a deſire of glory and the daring ſpirit of former conquerors, the virtues of ſober wiſdom, and every ſentiment of humanity and moderation; politics and the military art are ſo much the favourite ſtudies of his mind, as to be carried almoſt to enthuſiaſm and paſſion; and from the oppoſite qualities of her firſt conſul, equally great in peace as in war, France may juſtly boaſt, that ſhe alſo has *her Waſhington*.

For the Edinburgh Magazine.

THE TEMPLE OF SLEEP,—A VISION.

——————O gentle ſleep!
Nature's ſoft nurſe! how have I frighted thee,
That thou no more will weigh my eye-lids down,
And ſteep my ſenſes in forgetfulneſs.

SHAKESPEAR'S Henry IV.

ESCAPING from a furious ſtorm that had burſt from the clouds, I was ſuddenly arreſted by the ſight of an object, who had excited compaſſion or diſguſt in many breaſts, which ought to have felt only ſenſations of envy. A creature deformed by diſeaſe, overwhelmed by extreme poverty, and exhauſted by want, had ſunk by the way-ſide into a profound repoſe, and, in ſpite of "the pelting of the pitileſs ſtorm," was reaping from inſenſibility that peace and happineſs which were denied him in his more conſcious moments. Nothing could have afforded a ſtronger conviction of the vanity of all earthly grandeur, and of the impartial hand with which nature deals out her bleſſings to the ſons of men, than this intereſting ſcene. What ſhe withholds on one ſide, ſhe fully repays on another; if one cup is but ſcantily ſupplied, a ſecond is found to overflow.

Sleep, murmured I in my breaſt, as I lay reclined muſing on this little adventure, has been often compared to death. The analogy is indeed ſtriking and inſtructive. The illuſtrious and the obſcure, the mighty and the ignoble, the opulent and the needy, in both ſituations, repoſe on a level. The oblivious ſlumbers of the night, as well as the ſilence of the grave,

grave, ſtill the voice of fame and of reproach: annihilate ſuperiority and degradation along with their conſciouſneſs; ſtrip off the vain inſignia of greatneſs, alike with the tattered remains of poverty, and mingle them in one indiſcriminate heap. The hero, the patriot, the philoſopher, are not more eaſily recogniſed; when ſtretched upon an unconſcious pillow they lie expoſed to every trivial accident, than when extended upon the cold bed of death, and about to be conſigned to the boſom of his parent earth. But methinks the analogy between death and ſleep is not more remarkable in ſome points, than their contrariety in others. To the guilty, a future world preſents a tremendous proſpect, and often diſpatches its awful meſſenger, death, in an ill-fated and unwelcome hour. Sleep never intrudes his viſits; bleſſed viſits! as, for a while, they blunt the poignancy of remorſe, and diſſipate the certainty of approaching miſery. The unhappy dread the viſions of night, as they only prolong their ſorrows, and give new colouring to the picture of miſery; but they hail the ſetting ſun of life, as a prelude to the dawn of a more chearful and everlaſting day. The tyrant of nature knows no diſtinction among mankind: he aſſails all deſcriptions of character, all gradations of intellect and morals, every diverſity of conſtitution, age, rank, or fortune, and plunges them indiſcriminately into the grave. Sleep is a more partial and diſcriminating judge. It ſoftens the pillow only of the virtuous, the innocent, the happy, the contented. To them alone it infuſes its copious and recruiting draughts.

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" To the wet ſea-boy, in an hour ſo rude,
" And in the calmeſt, ſtilleſt night,
" With all appliances and means to boot,
" Deny it to a king?"

Purſuing this train of reflections through a thouſand different windings, I inſenſibly found myſelf in that intermediate ſtate between total inſenſibility and perfect conſcioufneſs, when reaſon is driven from his throne, but the aſſociations of the mind remain unbroken, and conduct to the world of viſions and fancy.

Not a ſingle ſunbeam ſeemed now reflected from the weſtern clouds: twilight had thrown its mantle of grey on the whole face of nature, and the univerſal ſhade appeared to be thickening almoſt to ſenſation. The gale dying away into repoſe, and no longer agitating the pendant foliage, now breathed only its Eolian ſounds into the ear. A death-like ſtillneſs reigned throughout the regions of animation; which the inſect noiſes and dying murmurs of water, that ſtill fell on the ear, only ſerved to render more profound and emphatical. A lofty edifice, ſituated in the valley below, to which my ſteps were irreſiſtibly tending, gradually emerged upon my ſight. I contemplated this abode; and felt, as I viewed it, a penſive and dreary melancholy ſtealing on my ſpirits. Poſſeſſed of all the ſober colouring and grandeur of gothic architecture, it ſeemed deſtitute of its maſſiveneſs and ſolidity. It was built upon a thin and airy foundation. Its ſtructure was heavy, yet fantaſtic and aerial. It lifted its grey and ſpiry turrets to kiſs thoſe clouds that reſted on its ſummit, and deepened its ſhade. A thin and tranſparent mantle of miſt circulated around its walls; the poppy hung its drooping head upon their top; and a ſtream of temporary oblivion rolled its waves below. No ſtir, not a murmur, no ſymptom of life was heard within. A ſilence, like that of the manſions of the dead, or of the deſerted abodes of our fathers, was enthroned there; ſave that the ſoothing ſtrains of a lullaby ſometimes iſſued through the caſements, and

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Thither, from the four quarters of heaven, were all the ſons of men flocking, as if moved by one ſpirit, or impelled by ſome fatality. Here they preſented offerings at the ſhrine of oblivion, poured out their libations, and paid their homage to the drowſy god. They marched with the profound ſilence of etherial natures, as if no longer incumbered with a material frame. Although all, exhauſted by fatigue, yielded to an irreſiſtible laſſitude, ſtill they exhibited a diverſity of appearances that indicated, with more than common perſpicuity, the difference of their characters. The expreſſion of their countenances, the attitudes of their bodies, the motions of their different limbs and muſcles, and their modes of walking, beſpoke an extreme variety in the diſpoſitions and feelings of their minds, and in the emotions with which they contemplated their approaching fate.

I was intereſted by theſe phenomena, and felt myſelf diſpoſed to examine them with accuracy.

The firſt group that fell under my view was a countleſs multitude of innocents, not yet emerged from the years of infancy. Unſpotted and liſtleſs, they reſted on the downy pinions of their guardian ſpirits, and thus, like a truſt of ſacred value, were wafted to the altar of repoſe.

They were quickly followed by an immenſe and motley collection of youths, verging towards the age of puberty, blended with barbarians and ſavages of every age and of every variety of colouring. Dwelling under all the climates of heaven, they traverſed the printleſs ocean with fairy footſteps, and mounted the loftieſt hills on aerial wings, to pay their devotions at the drowſy ſhrine. Roſy health was pictured on every face: their features indicated genuine contentment and ſerenity. The golden gate, as if by the influence of magic, was inſtantly unfolded for their reception, and the ſucceeding moment hid them from my view.

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Others appeared to be harraſſed by a multiplicity of buſineſs and cares. Their tottering ſteps were retarded by large bundles of papers, or immenſe bags and coffers, that enveloped and oppreſſed their ſhoulders. They muſed, they ſtopped, they heſitated; on the very eve of diſappearing, a ſudden thought would ſtrike at their heart, and they ſeemed to cling cloſer to the burthens which they carried. Submitting, however, to the irrevocable decree of the divinity within, they reluctantly depoſited

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depoſited their unholy loads, and at laſt retired.

Some ſtriking figures ſtill remained. One had been ſtanding remote from the reſt, immovable as a ſtatue of marble, but with a thouſand marked ſenſations flitting acroſs his countenance. Impotent deſire, jealouſy, and invincible avarice, were the predominant features in the perturbed portrait. Theſe paſſions, ſtruggling for ſuperiority, ſeemed to tear in pieces his heart, and completely unfitted him for the tranquil exerciſes of the drowſy devotee. He belonged to a cluſter of wretches, the very picture of guilt, deſpair, and miſery. Their bodies and their limbs were ſhrivelled and deformed with diſeaſe, their eyes were hollow and their bones gaunt and projecting. Some were diſfigured by the loathſome remnants of diſeaſe, others by intenſity of thought and of remorſe. All ſeemed labouring under ſenſations of horror, and although evidently ambitious of gaining acceſs, yet they diſcovered the moſt dreadful apprehenſions and reluctance at their approach. Some dire neceſſity, however, urged them forward. They walked with a diſordered, a tardy, an interrupted gait. They ſhivered every ſucceſſive moment, they ſhook at their own ſhadows, they ſtarted back upon themſelves, they diſappeared in a ſtate of inſenſibility or convulſion. Sometimes they were arreſted by the breaking looſe of a ſore, ſometimes a ſevere and oppreſſive cough ſeized them in the very porch of the temple, and ſuſpended their expectations on the eve of accompliſhment. "Ah, wretches!" whiſpered I to myſelf, "does not the folly of the vicious ſurpaſs even their guilt. Were it poſſible for old age and youth to go hand in hand, and to be ſpent together, how virtuous, innocent, and happy would man be in compariſon to ——," but here my commencing reverie was broken by a ſudden and delightful interruption.

All at once, I found myſelf encompaſſed by a cluſter of the healthieſt and faireſt youths of both ſexes. They were tripping along in an airy and fantaſtic manner; the ground below their light and graceful ſteps became fairy land. They had formed, I could perceive, a party for innocent amuſement. A light gentle langour, a ſlight wearineſs had pervaded their lovely countenances, yet there was ſeen no trait of vexation or diſappointment, no ſymptom of apprehenſion or diſmay; every feature was moulded into complacency, every eye ſparkled with exultation and delight; they vaniſhed in the twinkling of an eye, evidently carried away by ſome pleaſing reverie, or tranſported by ſome dream of bliſs. I was enchanted with the view, and was about to follow them myſelf.

As I made a little motion to advance, my eyes were inſtantly caught by a new ſet of objects, that ſeemed to have been conjured up before me. There I beheld the workings of ſome of the moſt powerful and unfortunate paſſions that actuate the human breaſt. Love, ambition, and the madneſs of gambling, blended their agitations, and totally bereaved them of that calmneſs and ſerenity requiſite for the tribute of repoſe. One lady, pale and emaciated, was furiouſly tearing a pack of cards, and giving, with muttered execrations, their tattered fragments to the wind. A letter received the bitter tears of a ſecond, and drew from her ſwelling boſom, groans of anguiſh and remorſe, and ſilent imprecations upon the head of her faithleſs ſeducer. A third, fairer than Diana, ſtood by the brink of the Lethæan river; and the ſighs of a doating and ill-requited love breathed faſt upon its ſurface: ſhe kiſſed her necklace, unlooſed from a ſnow-white neck, and hung it, with a diſconſolate air, upon a willow that drooped

drooped its head by her ſide. Her heart beat high, and ſeemed doubtful whether to quench the flame that devoured it, by plunging at once into the cold flood, or forget her woes by drinking of its waters of oblivion. A little to a ſide was formed a triumvirate of leſs diſaſtrous, but no leſs intereſting countenances. Their heads were plunged into each others boſom. they held deep conſultation; ſometimes glanced aſide, with an eye full of ſuſpicion, conſciouſneſs, and penetration; they were evidently plotting ſome deſperate enterpriſe, or ſome direful project of ambition. All theſe characters, after much time ſpent in heſitation and thought, ſucceſſively diſappeared.

One ſolitary youth ſtill pauſed behind. His whole air beſpoke an intolerable load of miſery, and ſome deſperate thought ſeemed labouring in his breaſt. His gait was now hurried, now ſlow, always ſolemn and impreſſive, as he began to approach: ſometimes he violently claſped his forehead in his hand, at other times he extended it over his breaſt; and ſeemed intent upon ſome deep and momentous train of reaſoning. Suddenly he tore from his boſom a phial, full of ſome dark coloured liquor, which he ſwallowed with a reſolute and agitated air. Upon this he relapſed into a ſtate of the intenſeſt thought, ſtupor, or deſpair. Slowly he moved within the gates, which this time had been unfolded with a tenfold degree of awful and portentous ſublimity.

The loud and dreadful craſh with which they were ſhut, awaked me in a ſtate of agitation and terror.

MEDITANS.

For the Edinburgh Magazine.

FREDERICK OSMOND; A TALE.

(Concluded from p. 55.)

HAVING thus got his mind at eaſe upon this point, Frederick began to conſider what profeſſion he ſhould purſue. His father had always intended that he ſhould follow out the ſtudy of law; but this profeſſion he began to ſuſpect would not raiſe him to eminence, although he were to become one of the firſt and moſt ſucceſsful pleaders, the Earl would not conſider him, even in that ſituation, fit for Emily. The army was the next thing that ſtruck him, in which, by attention, ſteadineſs, and bravery, he had little doubt of being noticed and ſoon promoted. He was ſo much convinced that this profeſſion would anſwer, that recollecting there was in his father's library a Treatiſe upon War, he immediately began to peruſe it. It was a ſtudy to which he had not been accuſtomed. He entered upon it with avidity: but ſoon, very ſoon, did he throw down the book in diſguſt, and wonder that man, depraved man, ſhould write a treatiſe, containing directions whereby one man might moſt effectually deſtroy another. He afterwards, however, began to reaſon more calmly, he was convinced that he ought not to conſider mankind as they *ſhould* be, but as they actually *were*; and that as one man was bad, it was requiſite that another ſhould be inſtructed how to defend himſelf in the beſt manner againſt his encroachments. He came at length, to be of opinion, that defenſive wars were juſtifiable, and that it was even ſomething neceſſary to act in the offenſive, in order to protect ourſelves,—but a war from any other motive than ſelf-defence, he viewed as deſerving the ſevereſt reprehenſion.

He continued for ſome time in doubts about entering into the army; he thought of ſeveral other profeſſions, and found objections to them all. But while he was in this dilemma, an accidental meeting with a college acquaintance fixed his wavering opinions, and indeed was the chief cauſe of the events of his future life:—ſo little does our ſucceſs in the world, nay, even our happineſs or miſery depend upon ourſelves, but upon accidental circumſtances, ſeemingly trifling at the time, and which might learn

us not to be too much depreſſed when any object fails upon which we have been very much bent, or when any thing happens which appears to us bad, as it is probable, that theſe ſeeming diſappointments may afterwards be the cauſe of our happineſs. This acquaintance, whoſe name was Strange, was paſſing near to Belgrave Houſe, without thinking of Frederick, or knowing that his reſidence was near, when Frederick, ſtrolling by himſelf, met with him and prevailed upon him to remain for the night at Belgrave Houſe. When mentioning their future purſuits, Mr Strange acquainted Frederick that his father, Sir Edward Strange, was to go in a ſhort time as ambaſſador to Paris, and that he wiſhed ſome ſteady young man poſſeſſed of abilities, to accompany him as private ſecretary. Mr Strange farther ſaid, that if Frederick wiſhed ſuch a ſituation, he was convinced that he would anſwer exceedingly well. Frederick was overjoyed at the thought of this employment, which was more congenial to his feelings, than being engaged in deſtroying towns and putting to death their innocent inhabitants. After conſulting with his father, he accompanied Mr Strange to Sir Edward, who was ſo well pleaſed with his appearance and converſation, that it was all agreed upon, and the day fixed when it was probable they would leave Scotland.

Frederick and Sir Edward in a ſhort time departed for Paris, and ſoon reached that capital. Here Frederick devoted his time almoſt entirely to the affairs of the embaſſy, and his abilities and diligence were of very great ſervice to Sir Edward. It was not long before Sir Edward was obliged to return to England, but before his departure he recommended Frederick in ſuch ſtrong terms to the Britiſh Miniſtry, as procured him the appointment of ambaſſador to Pruſſia. Frederick accordingly repaired to Berlin, where he continued for nearly two years, during which time the Miniſtry were ſo much pleaſed with his conduct, that they offered him an honourable and lucrative office in Britain, where they thought he would have greater opportunity of affording them his advice and aſſiſtance. Of this offer Frederick gladly accepted. Upon his arrival in London, he was gratified with again hearing what he had frequently before been informed of by letters from one of his acquaintances whom he had made a confident, that Lady Emily Erſkine was ſtill unmarried, and that his own relations were all well.

Shortly after Frederick entered into his new office, he received from his Majeſty the honour of knighthood, and upon the diſſolution of Parliament, he was returned member for the burgh of ———. It was now that he had a fair opportunity of diſplaying his abilities to the world, and his ſpeeches in Parliament were univerſally admired. But although he had a place under Government, he never proſtituted his talents to ſerve a party, and he ſometimes voted againſt Miniſtry when he thought their meaſures improper or unjuſt. The Miniſtry, in general, diſapproved of this behaviour, but were ſo much convinced of the many advantages which they reaped from his talents, that they did not appear to mark his independent conduct. Sir Frederick (for ſo we muſt now call him) had now every appearance of being ſpeedily raiſed to the firſt places in the diſpoſal of the Crown ; he was ſhining almoſt as much in the great world, and his company and acquaintance as earneſtly ſought after, as when among the ſmall circle in the city of St Andrews, at the time he attended that Univerſity.

But all this popularity made not Sir Frederick happy, or cauſed him forget Emily ; his love for her was as ardent as ever : he rejoiced at the ſituation to which he was raiſed, only on account of its being nearer to Emily's exalted ſtation ; and the dread that the Earl might ſtill retain the ſame diſpoſitions as formerly, and the fear leſt Emily had not retained her attachment, or that ſhe might yet be induced by her father to marry another, often occaſioned to him very great pain. His uneaſineſs was increaſed by his never hearing from Lord Bingley, which clearly ſhewed that he was not at liberty to write, for of the continuance of his friendſhip he had not the ſmalleſt doubts. He was now however ſo anxious to ſee Emily : to know whether there were any chance of his propoſals being now approved of by her and the Earl ; or at leaſt to be near that ſpot where ſhe reſided, as well as to ſee his own relations, that he reſolved to take a journey as ſoon as he poſſibly could to Belgrave Houſe.

In the mean time, we ſhall take the ſtart

ſtart of him, and enquire into the means by which the Earl firſt diſcovered the mutual love of Emily and Frederick, which occaſioned his ordering Frederick ſo ſuddenly from the Caſtle, as formerly mentioned, and alſo how matters had been going on at the Caſtle ſince that period.

At the very moment that Frederick revealed to Emily his attachment, they were obſerved by Earl Walton. Earl Walton was juſt entered into his Twenty-ſeventh year. He was poſſeſſed of great riches. His perſon was by no means diſagreeable. His accompliſhments were rather of the ſhining than ſolid kind; he danced well, and was perfectly polite. He was likewiſe a great flatterer of the ladies, and fond of horſes and hounds. He had read ſome, but very ſuperficially; had travelled over almoſt all Europe; and had diſcovered from his travels, "that the ſkirt is worn much ſhorter in France, and that every body eats macaroni in Italy." He thought himſelf, however, a very great genius, and that very few could equal him. His manner was conſequently haughty and overbearing, and he could not bear the leaſt oppoſition to what he wiſhed. Emily's beauty, birth, and riches, attracted his attention ſometime before Frederick and ſhe were acquainted, and with the approbation of the Earl, he declared to her his affection. He was not, however, a little ſurpriſed when Emily, inſtead of pleaſure ſparkling in her eyes at his propoſal, which he thought would certainly have been the caſe, gave him to underſtand that even he was not the perſon ſhe would wiſh to marry. His pride was ſo much hurt at this reply, that he did not afterwards go ſo frequently to Alva Caſtle, although he ſtill thought that Emily would give him ſome hint to renew his addreſſes, but in this alſo he was diſappointed. When Frederick came to the Caſtle, he conſidered him as in a ſituation in life beneath his notice, and you may therefore gueſs his anger and diſappointment, when walking one evening about that border of his property which joined Alva grounds, he noticed Emily and Frederick, and watching them for ſome time, overheard, and ſaw them make their firſt declaration of love; for they had been ſo much intereſted, that they had imprudently overlooked the poſſibility of their being obſerved. Walton, in a ſhort time after making this diſcovery, repaired to Alva Caſtle, got a private interview of the Earl; told him what he had witneſſed, procured his promiſe that he ſhould not be mentioned in the buſineſs, and waited the reſult with a malicious ſatisfaction. The conſequence has already been partly deſcribed. Lord Bingley in vain reaſoned with his father on the impropriety of his behaviour towards Frederick, and his grief for him was beyond deſcription. The account of Frederick's abrupt departure, and the cauſe of it, had ſuch an effect upon Emily, that ſhe was ſeized with a ſevere fever, which was long thought dangerous, but from which ſhe at laſt recovered, yet ſo imperfectly, that her health was by no means re-eſtabliſhed. It was not till ſhe was nearly recovered from the fever that the ſervant entruſted with Frederick's letter deemed it prudent to deliver it. The aſſurances of unalterable attachment it contained, tended very much to accelerate her recovery. The intelligence of Emily's diſtreſs had not reached Frederick at the time he departed for France.

It is probable that Emily's ſevere fever, and her continued weakly ſtate of health, might, from the affection which her father entertained for her, have induced him to agree to the wiſhes of the two lovers, although very much againſt his inclination, had not Earl Walton, who ſuſpected that this might be the caſe, by repreſenting at all times, and in the moſt artful manner, the character of Frederick in an exceedingly bad light to the Earl, cauſed him retain the hatred he had conceived againſt him. Since Emily's diſtreſs, Walton was more urgent in his propoſals reſpecting her than ever: this probably proceeded from the dread he at that time felt in caſe he ſhould loſe her, and by that means be deprived of ever poſſeſſing her large fortune, for it was that, more than the great merits of Emily, that made him ſo anxious for the match. Nor was Earl Alva leſs deſirous for the marriage taking place; he particularly wiſhed that ſhe ſhould be well married, in order to be out of Frederick's reach; Walton, among all her lovers, was, either for birth or fortune to be preferred, and he had likewiſe inſinuated himſelf into his good opinion. But Emily was too much intereſted in Frederick, ever to beſtow a

thought

thought upon the ſubject. She continued very weakly during all the time that Frederick was abroad, and the pleaſure ſhe received at hearing of his return to England, and his great ſucceſs, was very much damped by her father ſtill retaining of him an unfavourable opinion.

Lord Bingley, although he had not deem'd it prudent, in oppoſition to the Earl's peremptory orders, to write to Frederick, ſtill continued as much his friend as ever, and had often in vain endeavoured to re-inſtate him in the good opinion of the Earl. But he was at length ſo vexed at the unhealthy ſtate in which his ſiſter continued, and the little occaſion there was for the cauſe of it remaining, conſidering that Frederick had now arrived at ſuch a ſituation as would make it no diſparagement to the Earl to be allied to him, that he reſolved to uſe ſome ſtrong meaſure in order to undeceive his father as to Frederick's character; and as he knew that it was the wicked hints of Walton that principally made his father retain his anger againſt Frederick, he determined, if poſſible, to make Lord Walton appear to him in his proper colours. He accordingly at times hinted to his father, that he very much ſuſpected that Emily's fortune was a greater inducement to Walton than either her accompliſhments or connections: he even ventured ſo far as to propoſe that a trial ſhould be made as to his ſentiments on that head. To this Lord Alva, who by no means intended that Emily ſhould marry a perſon who was only influenced by her fortune, had no objections, provided that Walton's ſentiments could be diſcovered without his being informed of their ſuſpicions, the knowledge of which might be the means of breaking off entirely the propoſed match, to which he ſtill thought Emily might be prevailed upon to give her conſent; and he left it to Bingley to contrive a plan whereby they might have their doubts ſatisfied. Bingley, after ſome conſideration, propoſed, that his father ſhould inform Walton that his banker, in whoſe hands was almoſt all his perſonal property, had failed and gone abroad, without accounting for a halfpenny: at ſame time to ſay, that although it was neceſſary, conſidering the propoſals he had made; that he ſhould be made acquainted with this, to beg of him not to diſcover it to any other perſon. To this plan the Earl had ſome objections, but theſe were overruled by the reaſoning of Bingley. Earl Alva conſequently communicated to Walton the pretended great loſs he had ſuſtained. Walton was ſo thunderſtruck at this unexpected intelligence; his diſappointment was ſo great, and he was ſo unprepared to diſguiſe his ſentiments, that he ſoon diſcovered to Lord Alva the motives which had influenced him reſpecting Emily. Alva was at this ſo much provoked, that he immediately revealed the whole to Walton, and told him in the moſt deciſive manner, that he need never again renew his addreſſes. This produced an altercation in which ſuch language was uſed, as occaſioned a laſting difference between the two noblemen.

Lord Alva being now no longer influenced by Walton's malicious inſinuations, was prepared to judge more favourably of Frederick. The diſtinguiſhed ſituations which he had filled, with honour to himſelf and uſefulneſs to his country, cauſed him ſuſpect that, guided by paſſion, he had formerly formed of him a wrong idea. He likewiſe thought that, conſidering the rank which Frederick now held in ſociety, an alliance with him would not even pollute the noble blood of Alva. Lord Bingley ſoon noticed the happy effects which the difference with Walton had produced in the mind of his father; he took the advantage of this diſpoſition, and he loſt no opportunity of placing Frederick in the moſt favourable light, to which converſation he was highly gratified to find that his father liſtened with attention. The Earl was at length convinced, that, inſtead of obtaining the affections of Emily by any cunning, Frederick's conduct, while at Alva Caſtle, entitled him to the greateſt praiſe. He was ſurpriſed that he ſhould have been ſo long blind to his great merit, and that he ſhould have had ſo little regard for his only daughter; as to have beheld her pining away for years, when he had it in his power, by removing the cauſe of her complaint, to make her happy. He was vexed at his former conduct, and he reſolved to avoid, in future, the company of thoſe diabolical wretches whoſe chief delight conſiſts in blackening the characters of thoſe who have never done them the leaſt injury.

The idea of a marriage taking place betwixt

betwixt his daughter and Frederick, now afforded Earl Alva the greateſt pleaſure. He communicated to his ſon this alteration in his ſentiments, and after they had enquired privately, and found that Frederick's love for Emily was as ſtrong as ever, they communicated to him the tranſporting intelligence, that his viſits would now be received with pleaſure at Alva Caſtle. He was at this time juſt about to depart for Scotland as formerly mentioned, and you may eaſily believe that this information did not retard his departure.

It would be impoſſible to deſcribe the pleaſure Frederick and Emily felt at again meeting together, and in ſuch circumſtances. The marriage was ſoon ſolemnized; the happineſs of our lovers was complete; each day afforded freſh pleaſure; their conſtant delight was in doing good; the whole neighbourhood reſounded with the praiſes of their beneficence; and they

——"Flouriſhed long in tender bliſs, and rear'd
A numerous offſpring, lovely like themſelves,
And good, the grace of all the country round."

Cupar, 20*th Jan.* 1802. JUVENIS.

Poetry.

For the Edinburgh Magazine.

MELANCHOLY.

YE who in life's enchanting ſpring,
Are wrapp'd in Pleaſure's downy wing,
And baſk in ſplendor's genial rays,
May ſcorn the ſong, the *Bard* diſdain,
And fly to mirth's light, laughing train,
Who dance to muſic's ſprightly lays:

But ye who bear the bitter ſtorm,
When winter rears his icy form,
Driving thro' nature's drear domain;
And joys, with chilly hand, to tear
Her flowery robes and flowing hair,
May liſten to the plaintive ſtrain.

Come, *Melancholy!* penſive power,
I court thee at this midnight hour,
To guide my ſolitary way,
Thro' yon' lone foreſt's ſhady bound,
Where *Quair's* wild waters murmuring ſound,
And 'mid rough rocks, loud-brawling ſtray.

The Fox howls on the hill; the blaſt
Sounds dreary o'er the barren waſte;
The Owl from her lone *ruin* ſcreams,
The driving clouds along the ſky,
Swift on the wind's ſtrong pinions fly,
The ſtars, by fits, diſplay their beams.

The full-orb'd Moon, through fields of air,
Still urges on her rapid car,
And ſeems, by turns, to riſe and fall,
As on her deſtin'd path ſhe keeps,
And thro' the clouds indignant ſweeps,
Obedient at her *Maker's* call.

Thus I, in life's low, barren, plain,
Where grief and diſappointment reign,
Deſerted by the cheerful day,
Amid the gath'ring chilly ſhower,
That nips each little opening flower,
Muſt, hopeleſs, drag my weary way!

Thou Power ſupreme! who haſt decreed
To make my tender boſom bleed,
And wring my heart with ſorrow's hand,
Now mann my ſoul life's ſtorms to bear;
Thy victim would not drop a tear,
Nor yet arraign thy high command.

Where, Melancholy! have we ſtray'd,—
Acroſs the lonely echoing ſhade,
And onward to the church yard paſt,
Thro' rudely-ſculptur'd, nodding piles,
Damp vaults, and hollow-ſounding aiſles,
How ſad, how ſolemn ſighs the blaſt!

While thus I nightly vigils keep
Among the mould'ring tombs, where ſleep
Of other times the brave and fair:
Th' unequal ſtep, the downcaſt eye,
The ſtarting tear, the burſting ſigh,
The anguiſh of my ſoul declare!

Here peaceful reſts the charming maid,
To whom my tendereſt vows were paid,
When love firſt warm'd youth's vital tide!
Ye fair! who flaunt in beauty's bloom,
Here penſive view this lordly tomb,
And here renounce your little pride!

Now turn, thou ſadly-pleaſing power,
From ſcenes I ever muſt deplore,
And mark beneath the Moon's pale beam,
Where heaven-born genius loves to ſtray,
And pour, by ſtarts, his tender lay,
Slow dying o'er the murmuring ſtream.

Superior thus to pow'r and ſtate,
He thinks on all that's good and great,
Nor fears that vice his boſom wound,

Far,

Far, far from Folly's giddy maze,
Or where the ſyren Pleaſure ſtrays,
Deceitful, o'er enchanted ground.

Forms, ſhadowy, light, as morning dreams,
Swift gliding on the moon's pale beams,
Appear in Melancholy ſtate;
And, bending thro' yon fleecy cloud,
Proclaim—How little are the proud!
How weak the ſtrong! how mean the great!

Inverleithen. *J. N.*

For the Edinburgh Magazine.

THE BANKS O' FORTH,

A SANG.

AS Fortha's gay green banks I tread,
Whar', ſcatter'd by the youthfu' ſpring,
Ilk bloomin' floweret liſts its head
That ſcents the ſaft wind's playfu' wing;
I mark the daiſy drink the dew,
Its golden cup the gowan ſpread,
An' hear, up-borne to aether' blue,
The lav'rock warblin' leave the ſhade.

But a' this pomp o' faireſt flowers,
Still burſtin' beauteous on my e'e,
That ſpring in gay profuſion pours,
To my ſad heart nae joy can gi'e.
Nor can theſe notes that wildly flow,
An' on my ear ſae ſaftly fa',
A'e moment ſteal me frae my woe,
A'e moment drive my grief awa'.

For he wi' wham I aft ha'e ſtray'd,
Alang theſe banks ſae gayly green,
Whan ſpring wi' flow'rs the ſod array'd,
An' lent enchantment to the ſcene;
Has left the fields whar' Fortha' flows,
An' ventur'd on the ſtormy main;
Has prov'd a traitor to his vows,
An' left me lanely to complain.

Briſto-Port, 1802.

For the Edinburgh Magazine.

LINES

WRITTEN UPON READING THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES OF JOHNSON'S JOURNEY;—

"I ſat down on a bank, ſuch as a writer "of romance might have delighted to feign. "I had indeed no trees to whiſper over my "head, but a clear rivulet ſtreamed at my "feet. The day was calm, the air ſoft, and "all was rudeneſs, ſilence, and ſolitude. "Before me, and on either ſide, were high "hills, which, by hindering the eye from "ranging, forced the mind to find enter-"tainment for itſelf. Whether I ſpent the "hour well *I know not; for here I firſt* "*conceived the thought of this narra-*"*tive.*"

'TWAS noon; o'er Morven's hills the lord of day
Shot down with cold extravagance his ray;
Bright was the hour and calm; the tyrant North
Scarce let a breezy ſtraggler o'er the earth;
Heav'n ſmil'd on earth; each heath-hair'd mountain ſmil'd;
And laugh'd each giant rudeneſs of the wild.
In a green vale, where round the moon-bright rills
Are wont to dance the witches of the hills,
Half ſlumb'ring from the travels of the day,
The one-ey'd Polypheme of Litchfield lay:
His couch was nature's green; a barb'rous height
Of rival mountains round contracts his ſight;
No ſhade of trees here, whiſper'd o'er his head,
Nor half a flow'r its ſtinted fragrance ſhed:
Sad at his feet a torrent's waters roll,
That half diſſolve in ſleep his ſturdy ſoul.
Ah! luckleſs ſleep, for *Trees'* and Johnſon's ſakes;
Ah! ſleep unhappy for the land of cakes!
Heavens! could not ſome pert fairy from the wave
Have riſen, our Country and our *Oats* to ſave;
Oh! had ſome ſeraph from on high but come,
Giv'n ſome kind touch,—ſome Pudding ſtuff'd with plumb!
For, as along the bank, at length diſplay'd,
The giant genius of the iſle was laid,
Lo, gazing tiptoe on a tow'ring crag,
Stood Scotland's demon, like a Lapland hag!
Rob'd in hell's livery frown'd he from the hill,
Labouring with miſchief, ruminating ill:
Like ſome tall witch that oft from Lancaſhire,
Gallops to Norway on a broom of fire:
Or, like ſome Engliſh ſtrumpet, wan and ſick,
That winks and ſtruts through London's ſtreets of brick;
Paint thro' the mob the trull her carcaſe drags,
Array'd in ſtreaming majeſty of rags;
The white-check'd puppets, raptur'd,—all agape,—
Eye with amaze the dregs of female ſhape.
So ſeem'd the demon; for theſe imps "with eaſe
Aſſume what ſexes and what ſhapes they pleaſe."

Straight

Straight up from Percy's hills to Johnny Groats,
Roll'd her black eyes in queſt of plagues for Scots;
And many a helliſh ſcheme her breaſt revolves,
And many a dev'liſh feat of death reſolves:
Now on the vale ſhe caſts a deadly leer,
And views defenceleſs Genius ſlumbering near.
Straight in her breaſt a ſubtle plot awakes,
To wreak her rancour on the Land of Cakes,
Reſolv'd her bane o'er Johnſon's ſoul to ſpit,
And make her engine England's boiſt'rous wit.
Then, in her guile well pleas'd, her wings ſhe ſhook,
That ſcatter'd ſtench, and ſought the lowly brook:
But—Heav'ns! at what wild mean will fiends not graſp!
She flew, and flying turn'd a dapper waſp;
Slow, on black errand bent, it wing'd its way,
With cautious hum, to where the ſlumb'rer lay,
And thrice it tries, with pert attempt and vain,
To paſs each naſal portal of his brain;
Thrice up his hand the man in ſleep did reach,
And drives the rude invader from the breach.
Yet, baffled thus, he tempts another wile,
For when will devils fail in modes of guile:
Plump on the turf a ſturdy toad he fell,
Stuff'd with the poiſon, not of herbs, but hell:
With track of venom crawl'd it o'er the ground,
And ſought his ear:—his ear the demon found.
As at Eve's ear in Eden's pure abode,
Squat lay Hell's Sultan ſhrunk into a toad,
So at the gate of mighty Johnſon's brain
Lay Scotland's evil genius, ſputtering bane:
His fount of thought with poiſon he defiles,
Inſtilling foul deſigns and nauſeous wiles.
Poor ſlumb'ring man! that thus this imp unknown
Should fill thy heart with projects not thine own;
Should urge thy wit ſuch mong'rel fame to buy,
And blind to truth and trees thy wand'ring eye!
Where are ye, Heav'n? oh, mercy, where, to tear
The vizor'd devil from the ſleeper's ear?
Where, Boſwell, where, to pin this rank deceiver
In Buchan's den * for ever and for ever?
Yet ſlumbers on this witty man of men;
Yet ſpirts the toad-clad fiend and ſpirts again:
Till (for what pleaſing nap yet never broke)
Flew off the ſubtle imp, and Johnſon woke;
Woke—from his eye then tried to rub the ſcales,
For ſtill he thought, and thought he was at Thrale's:
Then up, and ſaw—egad! all hills around;
He roar'd, and chaff'd, and ſtamp'd the baſtard ground.
As when three Billings' wives, with ſea-green hats,
Inſpir'd with gin, curſe, rail, and ſpit like cats:
As raves ſome Oxford doctor, proud and big,
When winds blow off his learning with his wig;
Like nine Dutch toads, that foam and writhe their jaws,
When cruel ſchool-boys blow them up with ſtraws;
So Johnſon foam'd (oh, foul fall hell's black plots!)
Foam'd, flouted, rail'd, rav'd, curs'd his kinſmen Scots;
Now turns the cannon of his wit awry,
Now huge round forty-pounder words lets fly,
Now buſſs, with broadſides of ſharp Engliſh ſhot,
Scotch *beggars*, *prayers*, *panes*, *trees*, *thorns*, *carts*, and Scotch—what not?

OMA.

For the Edinburgh Magazine.

GORDON or *GORDONSTONE:*

A SCOTTISH LEGEND.

By Thomas Toms.

O Yonder comes an aged man,
An aged man is he,
His plaid is o'er his ſhoulder thrown,
His kilt's above his knee;
A bonnet blue is on his brow,
A ſtaff is in his hand,
And ſtill with ſtep ſedate and ſlow
He paces o'er the land.

Good morrow to thee, good old man:
I pray thee tell me why
Does yonder tow'r, that fronts the plain,
In mould'ring ruins lie?
Now, GOD be with thee, gentle Sir,
Come, reſt on yonder ſeat,

And

* "If I had any malice againſt a walking ſpirit, inſtead of laying him in the Red-Sea, "I would condemn him to reſide in the Buller of BUCHAN." *Journey.*

And I the tale my grandam told,
Full fadly will repeat.

" In yonder caſtle liv'd an Earl,
And well his name was known:
For few with him in wealth compar'd,
Gordon of Gordonſtone;
And he had too a loving wife
And lovely children three;
And there he dwelt in joy and peace,
As bleſt as man might be.

Rich jewels, furniture, and gold,
He had in plenteous ſtore,
And books of wond'rous ſkill had he,
Than gold he priz'd them more:
Full many a night with them he paſs'd,
Nor ſought his downy bed,
'Till morning came with cheerful light,
And ſhades of night were fled.

He left his food, he left his ſleep,
He grew ſo pale and wan,
His lady griev'd to ſee him quite
Become an alter'd man.
At length he call'd a truſty wight,
Both ſtout and true was he:
Saying, " Good Andrew, you to-night
" Muſt watch along with me.

" For I, by magic ſpells, have learn'd
" To raiſe from ſhades below,
" A cunning ſprite to anſwer all
" That I may wiſh to know;
" And this will be the night, I think,
" The ſpirit will appear;
" But I ſo long have watch'd for him
" That I may ſleep I fear:

" And ſhould I, Andrew, when the bell
" Shall tell the midnight drear,
" Watch thou the fire, for there I know
" The ſpirit will appear.
" O watch the fire, and watch it well,
" And if a change you ſee.
" That moment, Andrew, on thy ſoul,
" That moment waken me.

" For ſhould he come and on me call,
" And I no anſwer make,
" I am his ſlave and he, no doubt,
" My forfeit life will take.
" Be cautious, vigilant, and bold,
" And aſk whate'er you may,
" Dear Andrew, I thy wiſh will grant
" Until my dying day."

The night is come, and Andrew plac'd
By his dear maſter's ſide,
And for ſome time they gravely talk,
But ſlow the moments glide.
And ſlow and ſlower ſpeaks the Earl,
His words in fetters creep,
He nods—falls backwards in his chair,
And ſinks in downy ſleep.

Now Andrew ſhakes, and Andrew ſighs;
And looks around with fear;
The night is dark—the owlet ſcreams,
And midnight draws a-near.
The cold ſweat dwells on Andrew's brow,
His teeth in terror ſhake,
And oft he wiſhes from his reſt
His maſter to awake.

And later and more late it grows,
The winds and thunders rear:
It hails;—rains;—ſuch a ſtorm
Was never heard before!
At length the midnight bell is toll'd,—
His heart forgets to beat;
Fix'd as a ſtatue to its tomb,
Is Andrew to his ſeat.

And now the fire, with changing hue,
Thro' ev'ry colour paſt;
Then Andrew wiſh'd to call his lord,
But fear had froze him faſt!
The lightnings flaſh, the thunders roll,
And in the fire is ſeen
A ſpirit fierce, of hateful form,
With wild and angry mien.

And " Gordon!" loud the demon cries!
And Andrew ſtrives amain,
His lord to call—alas! for him
Poor Andrew ſtrives in vain.
And " Gordon!" once again it cries
In loud and angry tone,
(But Andrew's fix'd in fear.)
And then—" Gordon of Gordonſtone!"

An earthquake ſeem'd to ſhake the walls,
The doors are open'd wide,
The caſements ſhatter'd in the air,
Some fury ſeems to ride;
And with the uproar Gordon wakes,
What horrors meet his eyes!
Forth ſtalks the glaring, fiery fiend,
And thus he fiercely cries:

" Why was I call'd to be thus fool'd,
" No one to anſwer me?
" Thou, wretch, art now within my pow'r,
" And ſhalt my vengeance ſee."
Then thrice he blew againſt the wall,
The flames ſpread wide around;
He breath'd a deadly blaſt on both,
Which fell'd them to the ground.

He ſeiz'd on Gordon's raven brow,
And Andrew's ruddy hair,
He whirl'd them thro' the caſement far,
And ſprung aloft in air:
And from the caſtle, wide and high,
The fiery columns wav'd;
The ſleepers periſh'd in their beds,
And not a ſoul was ſav'd!

Then Gordon rais'd him from the ground,
And " O, my wife!" he cry'd,

And

And "O, my children!" then, alas!
He laid him down and died.
And when the neighbours gather'd round,
The Earl was ſtiff and cold;
And Andrew told the tale, and died
The moment it was told.

Now, GOD be with thee, gentle Sir,
In him for ever truſt.
Shun friends deceitful, GOD alone,
Is MERCIFUL and JUST.

For the Edinburgh Magazine.

STANZAS,

ADDRESSED TO THE SKY-LARK,

On firſt hearing him ſing for the Season.

THOU herald of approaching Spring,
Thy voice is rapture to my ear,
May freedom ever plume thy wing,
For thee, may plenty crown the year.

Ah! bleak and barren is the field,
Undeck'd with aught of Summer's dye,
The leafleſs ſhrubs no ſhelter yield
To ſcreen thee from the ſtormy ſky:

But ſoon thou'lt meet that joyous morn
When cryſtal dew-drops deck the plain,
When fragrance breathes from brake and thorn,
Sweet as thy wild note's native ſtrain.

And haply, as I ſeek the ſhade
In fervid Summer's noontide hour,
Thy ſweet ſong, warbling from the glade,
May lull my cares in Fancy's bow'r.

Thou dip'ſt thy wings in early dew
Freſh from the flow'ry boſom'd May,
And waft'ſt them thro' the welkin blue
With joy to hail approaching day.

The ſong that ſtrains thy little throat
Is fraught with bleſt oblivion's charms;
The wint'ry tempeſt is forgot,
No future ill thy breaſt alarms.

Forgetful thou what griefs moleſt,
What ruthleſs foes may work thee wrong;
How truant boys may rob thy neſt,
Or murd'rers mar thy matin ſong.

O were my breaſt as void of care,
So blithly would I hail the morn;
As joyous all the preſent ſhare,
Could I, like thee, the future ſcorn.

But, ah! my Spring of life is paſt,
Few flow'rs in Summer's lap appear,
And ſickly Autumn haſtens faſt,
Bleak harbinger of Winter drear.

Hope's fairy form, that glides before,
Full oft eludes my bounded view;
She dwells on ſome enchanted ſhore,
That faſter flies as I purſue.

Arbroath. *A. B.*

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Wednesday, February 3.

LORD Holland called their Lordſhips' attention to the circumſtance of the Treaties which were in negociation between this country and the Courts of Sweden and Denmark. Theſe involved conſiderations of the higheſt political importance, and he thought it proper that the Houſe ſhould receive ſome information reſpecting them, and more eſpecially, as the negociation with Sweden included a queſtion in which the two other powers were not implicated. He therefore wiſhed to learn from the Noble Secretary of State, whether the treaties in queſtion were yet arrived, and whether it was propoſed, ſhortly, to make any communication to Parliament upon this ſubject.

Lord Pelham adverted to the obvious impropriety of directly anſwering ſuch queſtions; the practice was unparliamentary and irregular. The treaties alluded to were not yet arrived, which was to be accounted for, on various grounds, ſuch as the circumſtances of the times, the ſtate of the ſeaſons; but, that, when theſe treaties ſhould be received, he had no doubt of his having it in command from his Majeſty, in due time, to lay them before the Houſe.

Lord

Lord Holland, in reply, obſerved, that he would agree with the Noble Secretary, that the practice of putting ſuch queſtions as he had done, to any individual Peer, was neither parliamentary nor regular. He did it, however, in the preſent inſtance, merely to ſave the Houſe that trouble which muſt attend the regular mode of couching them in the ſhape of a motion; but he could not help adverting to the circumſtance that the diſcuſſion of the Convention with Ruſſia had been, in one inſtance, put off for a fortnight on the ſuggeſtion of Miniſters, and in the avowed hope that within that interval, the Ratification of that treaty, on the parts of Denmark and Sweden would arrive. On that occaſion he had voted for the Addreſs, on a principle of confidence, which certainly he was not in the habits of doing; and he muſt obſerve, that as things had ſince turned out, ſuch a vote was rather immaturely given. His conduct in that inſtance, he obſerved, had rather lain on his mind ſince; (this remark excited a general ſmile in the Houſe,) and it was with the view in ſome degree of ſatisfying it, that he had propoſed the queſtions.

Monday, Feb. 8.

SAILING OF THE FRENCH FLEETS.

Lord Carliſle obſerved, that on a former occaſion he had put ſome queſtions to his Majeſty's Miniſters, relative to a large Fleet that had ſailed from the port of Breſt to the Weſt Indies; and at the ſame time he had received for anſwer, that Miniſters had been officially informed of the intention of France to ſend out ſuch an expedition; that they knew the ſpecific object for which it ſailed, and had taken every neceſſary precaution to prevent any danger that might reſult to Great Britain from ſuch a force, in caſe of the interruption of the negociation. An account had been very lately received, that another expedition had been fitted out in France; that a ſquadron of five ſail of the line under Admiral Gantheaume, had ſailed from a French port, and was ſuppoſed to be deſtined for the Eaſt Indies.—Whatever reaſons might have been given to juſtify the former expedition, he ſaw no neceſſity whatever for this. But he conceived it to be one which would give a great acceſſion of ſtrength to France, and therefore he wiſhed to know whether Miniſters had received any intimation of this expedition, or knew what its objectw as.

Lord Hobart ſaid, Miniſters had certainly been informed of the expedition which had ſailed from Breſt, and had taken every neceſſary meaſure of precaution againſt any conſequences that might follow from it. But with reſpect to the ſquadron to which the Noble Lord alluded, Miniſters had received no official communication, nor did they know that it had ſailed.

Thurſday, Feb. 11.

The Commons anpeared at the Bar with their newly olected Speaker, Mr Abbot, at their head:—he was ſupported by the Maſter of the Rolls and Mr Baker.

The *Lord Chancellor* ſtated, that it not being convenient to his Majeſty to be perſonally preſent, he had thought proper to appoint Commiſſioners to declare his Royal approbation of the Speaker choſen by his faithful Commons.

Mr Abbot then addreſſed the Lords Commiſſioners nearly as follows:—"In obedience to his Majeſty's commands, his faithful Commons have proceeded to the election of a Speaker, and of which it becomes my duty to aequaint your Lordſhips, that the high and diſtinguiſhed honour of their choice has fallen upon me. Impreſſed, as I fully am, with the deepeſt ſenſe of the very arduous and important duties of that high and honourable truſt, I have neceſſarily to regret that their choice has not been better made, and I am fully perſuaded, that his Majeſty's faithful Commons would have ample cauſe to expreſs their gratitude to the Throne, were it his Majeſty's Royal pleaſure to command them to proceed to another election." On which

The *Lord Chancellor* addreſſed Mr Abbot to the following effect:—"That his Majeſty being perfectly ſatisfied with his experience of the prudence and wiſdom manifeſted by his faithful Commons in repeated former elections, of perſons to fulfil the arduous duties and the great and important ſituation to which their choice had elevated the Member now preſented for the Royal approbation, his Majeſty entertained no doubt of his (Mr Abbot's) talents, diligence, and ſufficiency to diſcharge the arduous and important duties of that ſituation. We, therefore, Sir, have it in command from his Majeſty to notify and

and declare, that his Majeſty is graciouſly pleaſed fully to allow, and highly to approve, of the choice made by his faithful Commons of a Speaker."

The *Speaker* then ſaid—"My Lords, I humbly ſubmit to his Majeſty's royal pleaſure, and beg to return my moſt grateful thanks for the high and diſtinguiſhed honour of his Royal approbation. It will become my duty to aſſert and maintain the ancient and undoubted rights of the Commons Houſe of Parliament; and ſhould I, in the diſcharge of my various important and arduous duties, commit any involuntary error, I intreat it may be imputed to me alone, and not laid to the account of his Majeſty's loyal and faithful Commons."

The *Speaker*, accompanied by the Members, who were very numerous, then retired.

Lord Minto took the oaths and his ſeat.

Monday, Feb. 15.

Lord Pelham preſented a Meſſage from his Majeſty, relative to the ſtate of the civil liſt, ſimilar to that ſent down to the Houſe of Commons.

Lord Pelham moved, that his Majeſty's Meſſage be taken into conſideration on Monday the 22d inſt. and that their Lordſhips be ſummoned for that day.

The *Duke of Norfolk* expreſſed his wiſh to know whether it was intended to lay before the Houſe, certain papers, the production of which he thought neceſſary, to enable their Lordſhips fully to underſtand the ſubject—ſuch as the particulars of the debt incurred, and ſpecifying the ſame under diſtinct heads; a ſpecification of the funds out of which the charges were to be paid, &c.

Lord Pelham obſerved, the Houſe would recollect, that in his Majeſty's Meſſage, it was expreſsly ſtated, that accounts relative to the Debts in queſtion would be laid before the Houſe. When they were on the table, if the Noble Duke was not ſatisfied with them, he might move for any papers he ſhould think neceſſary.

The queſtion was then agreed to.

Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Tueſday, Feb. 2.

The Speaker communicated to the Houſe a letter he had received from Rear-Admiral Sir James Saumarez, in which Sir James expreſſed his grateful acknowledgments for the Thanks voted him by the Houſe, and promiſed to take the earlieſt opportunity of communicating the Vote of the Houſe to the Captains of the fleet.

CIVIL LIST.

Mr Canning roſe for the purpoſe of calling the attention of the Houſe to the ſubject of a notice given by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. That Right Hon. Gentleman had given notice to the Houſe, that he ſhould, after the receſs, bring forward a meaſure for the purpoſe of providing for the payment of the arrears of the Civil Liſt by the ſale of certain of his Majeſty's Colonial Poſſeſſions.—With reſpect to the object which was to be thus provided for, he truſted there could be no difference of opinion; he, for one, conſidered a proviſion for ſuch an object as a moſt wiſe diſtribution of money, and whenever it was brought forward, it ſhould have his moſt cordial and entire aſſent. With reſpect to the mode of raiſing money for this purpoſe, he had turned his attention to the ſubject, and he thought it was not entirely free from objection. His objections, it would of courſe be irregular now to ſtate, they muſt be reſerved till the queſtion came before the Houſe.

The *Chancellor of the Exchequer* ſaid, that in the notice which the Right Hon. gentleman had alluded to, which he had felt it his duty to ſubmit to the Houſe, he had ſtated the accumulation of arrears upon the Civil Liſt, the expediency and neceſſity of liquidating them, and that the means of diſcharging theſe arrears might be found without impoſing any additional burden upon the country: he had ſtated that the ſale of certain lands or colonial poſſeſſions of his Majeſty would afford the means of diſcharging the greater part, if not the whole of thoſe arrears, without adding to the public burdens. In the notice he gave, he alluded to the iſland of St. Vincent, in which iſland his Majeſty's Miniſters had in contemplation the ſale of the lands which were called the Charib Lands, in order that the produce of ſuch ſale might be applied to the purpoſe alluded to.

INCOME TAX.

Mr Jones ſaid, he had, at a former period of the Seſſion, given notice that he ſhould, on the firſt day of the meeting of Parliament after the receſs, name a day

a day when he intended to bring forward a propoſition relative to the Income Tax. He now wiſhed previouſly to know whether the Chancellor of the Exchequer intended to bring forward any ſpecific propoſition upon this ſubject.

The *Chancellor of the Exchequer* ſaid, that neither the Hon. gentleman, nor the Houſe, would expect that he ſhould give an anſwer to that queſtion. As to the propoſition which the Hon. gentleman had intimated his intention of bringing forward, he ſubmitted it to the candour of that Hon. Gentleman, whether it would be proper to urge ſuch a propoſition before he knew what were the intentions of Government with reſpect to the Ways and Means of the year. "I would not be underſtood to allude to what may or may not be proper to be done in the buſineſs hereafter. I hold out no expectations. I give no direct or implied pledge, one way or the other, I only wiſh to avoid a premature diſcuſſion."

Mr Jones ſaid, that after what had been urged by the Right Hon. Gentleman, he ſhould not give the notice which he had intended. If, however, the Chancellor of the Exchequer did not bring forward ſome meaſure relative to the ſubject in the Ways and Means of the year, he ſhould then think it his duty to make ſome propoſition upon it.

Wedneſday, Feb. 3.

Mr Foſter (late Speaker of the Houſe of Commons, in Ireland,) took the oaths and his ſeat.

Friday, Feb. 5.

The Houſe reſolved into a committee on the Southern Whale Fiſhery.

Lord Glenbervie moved a reſolution expreſſing that it was expedient to revive and amend the ſaid act, which being agreed to, the report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

BRIDGES, &c. IN SCOTLAMD.

Mr W. Dundas ſtated, that he had given notice before the receſs, that it was his intention to move for leave to bring in a bill for appropriating certain funds to public purpoſes in Scotland. The money to which he alluded had already been appropriated by Act of Parliament to public works in Scotland, and the purport of his motion was to apply the remainder to other works, ſuch as erecting bridges, making roads, &c. He found it neceſſary, however; to delay this motion a little longer, as ſeveral gentlemen from that part of the country, of whoſe local knowledge he wiſhed to avail himſelf, were ſtill prevented from coming to town by the ſeverity of the weather. In giving this general notice he could not fix any preciſe day for his motion, but he would bring it forward as ſoon as poſſible.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY.

The *Chancellor of the Exchequer* ſaid, the Houſe, was in poſſeſſion of the manner in which the ſum of 4,500,000l. granted laſt ſeſſion for the extraordinary expences of the army, had been diſtributed; and alſo of the particular ſervices on which the ſum of 2,000,000l. raiſed in purſuance of a Vote of Credit, had been expended. In addition to theſe accounts, his Majeſty had thought proper to lay before the Houſe, an account of the exceſs for the extraordinaries of the army beyond the 2,500,000l. The aggregate of the ſum exceeding the eſtimate laid before Parliament, with reference to the 2,000,000l. was, he was concerned to ſay, a ſum no leſs than 1,080,047l. The various articles of which this exceſs was compoſed, ranged themſelves under three diſtinct heads; the firſt was the ſum of 260,000l. paid to Mr John Wood, the deputy commiſſary general on the Continent. He ſhould therefore obſerve, that the ſum of 260,000l. to which he had alluded, was ſtated as an item of charges which formed a part of a conſiderable, but at the ſame time neceſſary expence. It was an expence which aroſe out of demands founded on various ſubſidiary treaties between Great Britain and the Elector of Bavaria, the Duke of Wirtemberg, and the Elector of Mayence; and alſo ſums this country was bound to make good, in conſequence of having taken into its pay the Swiſs Corps and the regiments of the Prince de Conde. The Committee would ſee there had been every poſſible caution on the part of Government, not merely with regard to the mode of permitting the expence to be incurred, but for inquiring into the application of the money for ſatisfying ſervices previouſly provided for by Parliament.

With reſpect to the two other heads of expenditure, as ſtated in the paper in his hand, the moſt conſiderable was that which aroſe out of bills drawn from

Egypt

Egypt in the ſpring, ſummer, and autumn of laſt year. They amounted to 1,540,000l. a ſum, which he freely confeſſed greatly exceeded any expectation he had entertained at the time; but he was thoroughly convinced, that large as it was, the circumſtances of the war in Egypt had rendered it indiſpenſably neceſſary. He was far from deſiring to ſink the reſponſibility of thoſe, who had employed ſuch a ſum, by urging the ſplendid and unparalleled ſucceſſes of the Britiſh army. He wiſhed the accounts to be as minutely ſcrutinized, as if Great Britain, inſtead of a glorious and well-earned victory, had experienced defeat and diſappointment. The campaign in Egypt was one of the moſt arduous and trying ſervices an army could be engaged in, and unexampled expences had neceſſarily reſulted from them. It had been the opinion of ſome of the moſt diſtinguiſhed perſons in the ſervice, that the operations in Egypt would not have been of any conſiderable duration.—It had been the hope and expectation of the great and diſtinguiſhed man who had commanded the army, and the loſs of whoſe life the country had to regret, that the fate of Egypt would have been decided within a much ſhorter period than that to which a variety of events had protracted it. When therefore it was conſidered that the operations of the army had continued for a much longer time than had been expected, and that the accounts had paſſed through the hands of ſuch a man as Mr Motz, the Committee he was perſuaded would be ſatisfied there had not been laviſhed the leaſt unneceſſary expence. There was another head of expence, it was the amount of the exceſs of the expence incurred in the Weſt Indies, in conſequence of bills drawn by the Commiſſary; this amounted to between 4 and 500,000l. He had no heſitation in ſaying, that he contemplated this exceſs with conſiderable concern.—It might be ſaid, that an augmentation of expenditure was neceſſary in conſequence of the expedition againſt the Daniſh Weſt India Iſlands, and that conſiderable additional expence muſt have been the conſequence of the unexampled high price of proviſions. Independent of theſe conſiderations, the whole expence, without ſuppoſing the leaſt imputation againſt the Gentleman who was Commiſſary in the Weſt Indies, or meaning, in naming General Trigge, to inſinuate that the leaſt ſuſpicion attached to his conduct, he muſt yet acknowledge that the eſtimate he had given was not ſufficient to juſtify the exceſs, and his Majeſty had therefore determined to appoint a ſpecial committee to proceed to the Weſt Indies to examine into the accounts: to go from iſland to iſland, and inquire upon the ſpot into the facts upon which they were founded. The reſult of this inquiry would of courſe be laid before the Houſe as ſoon as it ſhould be tranſmitted to England.

The Right Hon. Member ſtated that the debt of the Navy was, on the 31ſt December 1801, 9,073,070l.; and after enumerating the encreaſed amount of the Navy Eſtimates in conſequence, a greater number of ſhips of the line having been brought into ſervice, and the augmentation of ſhipping of various deſcriptions, the employment of crafts to protect the mouths of rivers, and many other ſources of expenditure, he obſerved, that it was a ſubject of ſurprize, the exceſs had not been to a much greater extent than it appeared to be.—As to the exceſs under the head of Victualling, it was one he regretted, but at the ſame time the term itſelf indicated the reaſon—it was attributable to the enormous price of ſubſiſtence during the laſt year; but it was to be underſtood, that under the head of victualling for the Navy, a very large ſum was applied in victualling the Army. It was impoſſible, under the preſent circumſtances, to aſcertain how far it would be prudent to diminiſh the debt of the Navy. Much would depend on when the country would be enabled to relieve itſelf of a conſiderable part of the naval ſervices; till it was known what the amount of the naval eſtabliſhment would be, it was impoſſible to ſay at what amount the Navy debt ſhould be ſuffered to remain. He truſted it would not be thought too much, if he propoſed a vote of 2,000,000l. towards reducing the Navy Debt; and as to the Extraordinaries of the Army, he ſhould propoſe that a ſum to the amount of the exceſs ſhould be provided for. He concluded by moving, that a ſum not exceeding 1,847,474l. be granted to his Majeſty to defray the Extraordinaries of the Army incurred and paid by the Paymaſter-General of his Majeſty's forces for the year 1801.

Mr Robſon conſidered the Peace that had

had been agreed on as nothing more than a dormant Peace; inſtead of which the country ſhould rather be conſidered at this time as being in a ſtate of active war. Could any man who witneſſed the late events which took place in Italy, entertain any other opinion? Did not the Chancellor of the Exchequer know at the time he ſigned the Preliminaries of Peace, that Bonaparte would put himſelf at the head of the greater part of Italy?—And if he did, he ſhould not have ſigned ſuch a Treaty. The Hon. Member then went over the different items in the accounts before the Houſe; contending that the Houſe had no means of knowing whether the ſums had been properly applied or not, and that many of them had been improperly applied. For what purpoſe, he aſked, ſhould this country give money to the Duke de Choiſeul, to the Prince of Heſſe, &c.? What had they to do with the Army Extraordinaries? What had we to do with Black Corps in the Weſt Indies? What connection had the army with ſending money to Mr Thornton at Hamburgh?—With reſpect to the correctneſs of the Commiſſary's accounts, no Commiſſary ever gave in his accounts. He found that bills had been drawn by our Ambaſſador at Vienna: what connection could they have with the Army Extraordinaries?

Mr Martin (of Tewkeſbury) ſaid, it was high time for that Houſe to examine minutely into the expenditure of the public money; particularly when a general election was in all probability not far diſtant, and when every Member ſhould give an account of his conduct to his conſtituents. He hoped that what had already happened would diſguſt the people againſt fooliſh and unneceſſary wars, and a ſcandalous expenditure of public money.

The *Chancellor of the Exchequer* ſaid, what ground the Hon. Gentleman who ſpoke laſt, could impute a ſcandalous expenditure of the public money to either the preſent or the late Miniſters, he was at a loſs to know. He wiſhed every Gentleman in the Houſe to examine the accounts on the table, and be ſatisfied whether the ſums ſtated there had been properly applied or not. With reſpect to the ſum given to the Prince of Heſſe Caſſel, it was one on which there could hardly be a difference of opinion: and it was only to be lamented that it had not been paid ſooner. The reaſon of giving 100,000l. to the King of Sardinia was this:—Parliament had regularly allowed that Prince the ſum of 200,000l. annually, from the time of the commencement of the war, until the misfortune which befell him in 1796. Before that event was known, one-half of the ſum voted for his uſe had been ſent off; and a warrant was iſſued from the Treaſury for ſending the remaining 100,000l.; which, however, on the news of his being driven from his dominions having reached this country, was not ſent away. But in October 1800, the late Adminiſtration admitted the claim of that Prince, and agreed to pay him the 100,000l. at the rate of 4000l. per month, and the preſent Miniſters thought themſelves bound to fulfil that engagement. As to the obſervations that theſe ſums were applied to other beſides military purpoſes, he muſt obſerve, that the expences included in army extraordinaries never could be purely military. The two millions for the Navy was not for a new ſervice, but to get rid of incumbrances; to take up out-ſtanding Navy bills.

Mr Martin obſerved, that whatever might be ſaid in favour of thoſe papers in that Houſe, the people thought very different of them out of doors.

Mr Jones hoped that at the next general election not a man of thoſe who had ſo long been voting away the public money would be returned to that Houſe. He was aſtoniſhed to hear the Chancellor of the Exchequer praiſe the late Miniſters for their management of the public money. There was not a man from the ſpot where he then ſtood, to John o'Groat's Houſe, who was not convinced, that, under their adminiſtration there was the moſt laviſh and ſhameful expenditure of the public money that ever took place in any country; but he would not then enter into the diſcuſſion of their conduct, as an Hon. friend of his was ſhortly to bring it before the Houſe, and he hoped he would make twenty motions on the ſubject. He had adviſed the Chancellor of the Exchequer to make out a ſeparate account, diſtinguiſhing the expenditure of the late from thoſe of the preſent Miniſters, and it was to be wiſhed he might do ſo. It was evident the papers on the table related to expences incurred during the late Adminiſtration.

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The *Secretary at War* ſaid, the ſum of 1,500l, given to the Duke de Choiſeul, was an indemnification for the loſſes he ſuſtained while actually in the Britiſh ſervice, in conſequence of having been ſhipwrecked on the coaſt of France, where he was detained a priſoner for a long time, and loſt all his property. The money for the Black Corps, was for the payment of the ſervices of thoſe who had diſtinguiſhed themſelves in aſſiſting to take the Daniſh Weſt India Iſlands. Theſe corps altogether amounted to 9000 men.

Mr Vanſittart obſerved, that with reſpect to the ſum drawn for at Malta, he was confident that when the Hon. Gentleman knew the cauſe, he would, in common with every Member in the Houſe, conſider it as highly meritorious. The ſum of 20,000l. and 47,000l. were in that caſe applied to the purchaſe of corn, when the country laboured under the preſſure of the late ſcarcity. The expence incurred in the iſland of St. Domingo was occaſioned by the neceſſity of ſtill keeping up a proper intercourſe with that ſettlement for objects of great utility. The bills drawn by Lord Balcarras, Lieutenant-governor of Jamaica, certainly formed a conſiderable ſum, which was however occaſioned by the extraordinary expences of victualling, and the relative ſtate of that iſland to St. Domingo.

Mr Jones was deſirous of learning from the Right Hon. Gentleman, whether he had not formerly aſſured the Houſe, that there was no further expence for foreign troops.

The *Chancellor of the Exchequer* declared, that he could not have made any ſuch aſſurance, as it was ſtill neceſſary to retain ſome foreign troops in the Britiſh ſervice, particularly thoſe who continued in Egypt.

Mr Robſon aſſured the Committee that he was perfectly ſatisfied on many points by the fair and candid anſwers which he had received from his Majeſty's Miniſters.

The ſeveral reſolutions then paſſed the Committee.

Monday, Feb. 8.

A Meſſenger from the Bank brought up an account of the expenditure of the Sinking Fund, by the Commiſſioners for liquidating the National Debt.

SUPPLY.

Mr Alexander brought up the Report of the Committee of Supply.

Mr Martin (of Tewkeſbury) ſaid, he underſtood, with regret, that the obſervations which he had felt it his duty to make on a former evening, when the ſubject of the Report juſt preſented was before the Committee, had incurred the diſpleaſure of the Right Hon. Gentleman who preſided on the Treaſury Bench, and of other perſons who acted with him. He could aſſure the Houſe, it was with the utmoſt reluctance he ever delivered a ſentiment, however ſtrongly urged by the neceſſity of the occaſion, that might give offence to any party or to any individual; but he would be more particularly unwilling to offend the Right Hon. Gentleman over againſt him, for he never could forget the dignity, grace, and rectitude with which he had conducted himſelf in the Chair of the Houſe; with the recollection of which he was ſo ſtrongly impreſſed, that he could not help ſaying, without meaning any diſreſpect to the preſent worthy Speaker, that he was ſorry the Right Hon. Gentleman had ever quitted that ſituation, to riſk his character by the expoſure of ſuch a paper, as that in which the Expenditure of the 2,500,000l. granted for the Extraordinaries of the Army was accounted—a paper which he wiſhed to be read in every market-place in the country; and he was confident, from the clumſy manner in which it was drawn up, and the extravagant items it contained, it would excite univerſal laughter and indignation—it would ſerve to damp the diſpoſition to war, which had unhappily of late been too prevalent, and which encouraged the late Miniſter to plunge the country into hoſtilities without neceſſity or juſtice, and to ſquander the public money among the petty butchering powers of Germany, who hired out their men to be ſhot at for ſo much a-day, as if we had not a Navy amply ſufficient to defend us againſt any enemy, without reſorting to ſuch alliance.

The *Chancellor of the Exchequer* expreſſed his ſurpriſe that the Hon. Gentleman ſhould ſuppoſe that he could feel offended at the attempt of any Member of Parliament to examine the Public Accounts, or that he could attribute to ſuch Member any diſpoſition to offer him a perſonal offence—on the contrary, he courted that ſcrutiny, and had no fear of the reſult; but he confeſſed, from

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a conſideration of the Hon. Gentleman's known candour, and from a recollection of the civility he had uniformly experienced from him, he felt hurt when the Hon. Gentleman charged his Majeſty's Miniſters with groſs and ſcandalous expenditure of the public money, a charge certainly rather too ſtrong, when it was recollected that the Hon. Gentleman advanced it upon the aſſertion of the Hon. Gentleman on the floor, without waiting for his (Mr Addington's) explanation.

The Hon. Gentleman expreſſed a wiſh that the account alluded to ſhould be read in every market-place in the country; he aſſured him that ſuch was his wiſh alſo, confident that it would meet the public approbation. It muſt be manifeſt, that the exceſs, which upon this occaſion the Houſe was called upon to provide for, aroſe from the extraordinary expence of the Army and Navy, on the expedition to Egypt. The navy debt, contracted within the laſt year, in conſequence of that expedition, exceeded that of the year 1800 by the ſum of 367,000l.; only for that expedition, he was decidedly of opinion, it would have been leſs. It was then the opinion of the moſt experienced military men, that the Egyptian expedition would not laſt ſo long. Another part of the extraordinary expence of laſt year was incurred by the preparations for internal defence, which Government thought it neceſſary to make in conſequence of the equipments on the coaſt of France, apparently menacing this country; menaces which ſome people valued too highly, and others too lowly—againſt which, however, it was the duty of Government to guard. This, with the buſineſs of Egypt, formed three fourths of the extraordinary expences of the laſt year, and it muſt be in the conſideration of the Houſe, that a great part of the navy was occaſioned by the enhanced price of all articles of victualling, which, under the management of thoſe elevated characters who had the direction of his Majeſty's navy, were doubtleſs obtained on terms as advantageous as the ſtate of the times would admit.

Mr Tierney ſaid, that though Gentlemen might have felt themſelves imperatively called upon from the prodigality and extravagance of the former Miniſter, to examine minutely, and to watch withjealouſy, his expenditure of the public money, it did not follow that the accounts preſented by his ſucceſſor, whoſe conduct intitled him to confidence, and whoſe character was reſpected by the country, ſhould be viewed with ſuſpicion. The Right Hon. Gentleman had done nothing that could juſtify the ſlighteſt jealouſy. The paper which was the ſubject of animadverſion to the Hon. Gentleman on the floor, had been in his (Mr Tierney's) opinion, very ſatisfactorily explained already. It was complained that large bills were drawn from the Weſt Indies, and the Right Hon. Gentleman promiſed to ſend out a commiſſion to inquire into the reaſon and to review the accounts. He regretted that the Right Hon. Gentleman who lately held the firſt ſtation in his Majeſty's councils was abſent, as he ſhould wiſh to queſtion him on this part of the account. The Right Hon. Gentleman had always the army extraordinaries by anticipation, and he obtained much credit for the accuracy of his eſtimates, becauſe, at the end of the year, when the account was laid before the Houſe, it always ſo happened that it amounted to within a few thouſands of the eſtimate; but there was now reaſon to apprehend that all the items were not brought forward, and that if they were, the inaccuracy of the Right Hon. Gentleman's eſtimate would be obvious. Some of theſe items were held in reſerve for the preſent Miniſter to provide for, and his predeceſſor would kindly ſaddle on him the odium which generally attaches to demands for money; but the the good ſenſe of the country would perceive the diſtinction. If, however, any odium could attach to thoſe who gave their ſupport to the preſent Miniſter, he was ready to take his full ſhare. It appeared to him the Right Hon. Gentleman was very hardly dealt with in this inſtance; it would have been more manly in his predeceſſor and friend, to have come forward and avowed the amount of the expences incurred during the management of the public purſe, and not attempt to transfer to the Right Hon. Gentleman a portion of the unpopularity reſulting from his extravagance. He contended that it was manifeſt from theſe accounts that the late Miniſter deceived Parliament. He left a part of his much abuſed ſubſidies to be diſcharged by the preſent Miniſter, and kept back many items of his expence in order to ſhield himſelf from aggravated reproach.

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He concluded with ſtating the reaſons which induced him to ſupport the preſent Miniſter. He ſaid that he had the firmeſt conviction of his integrity—that he therefore had no doubt but that he would perform all the promiſes he had made, to ſatisfy the wiſhes, and to redreſs the grievances of the country.

Mr Steele (Paymaſter-General,) ſaid, in framing the accounts much pains were taken to make them perfect and complete. He would obſerve that the eſtimates were referred to the Comptrollers of the Army, who examined them, after which they paſſed through the regular channels, and a warrant was made out for the payment of the demands, which was brought to the office, and bearing the regular ſign-manual, the Paymaſter was bound to pay. At the cloſe of the year a number of demands might be outſtanding, conſequently they could not be ſtated, as the Treaſury might not know the amount.

The *Chancellor of the Exchequer* remarked, that it was neceſſary for the Houſe to conſider that the account preſented was a winding-up account, as was the caſe at the end of every war, and was intended to include every branch of expenditure ranging under army extraordinaries, as far as they could be made out.

Mr Nicholls ſaid, that the preſent Chancellor of the Exchequer was not reſponſible for the impropriety of entering upon the Egyptian expedition, or for the various expences produced by the late war. He thought Government acted perfectly right in paying all the bills drawn by its agents—a contrary practice might be attended with infinite miſchief. He did not wiſh to cenſure the late Miniſters, who were not preſent. The proper ſeaſon for inquiring into their conduct would arrive, and if they were found to blame he ſhould be as ready as ever to condemn them. With regard to the preſent Miniſter he looked upon him as the Miniſter of a pacific ſyſtem, and he had obſerved no one meaſure of his that deſerved reprehenſion.

This country could only be ſaved by perſevering in a pacific ſyſtem, and while he found a Miniſter making peace his principal object, he would overlook thoſe venial errors which might be found in his adminiſtration, while he exhibited thoſe virtues which prompted him to deſire peace, his defects would ſeem diminiſhed.

Verum ubi plura nitent in Carmine, non ego paucis
Offendar Maculis.

Mr Sturgis obſerved, that an Hon. Gentleman (Mr Tierney) had cenſured the late Miniſters for not adopting the meaſure of a Commiſſion of Inquiry ſimilar to the one mentioned by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in the Committee on a former night. The fact was, that in 1800, an Act paſſed, enabling his Majeſty to iſſue ſuch Commiſſions; and it was upon that very Act the preſent Commiſſion was founded. The imputation therefore was unjuſt.

The *Chancellor of the Exchequer* ſtated, that the perſons who were proceeding to the Weſt Indies were ſent by virtue of the Act paſſed during the adminiſtration of the late Miniſtry.

Mr Wm. Dundas ſaid, the Hon. Member (Mr Tierney) had imputed to the late Chancellor of the Exchequer that he had, for purpoſes of ſecrecy and concealment, kept back certain accounts. This was a very high charge—and confident he was, if it was made in the preſence of his Right Hon. Friend, it would meet the anſwer it deſerved. It was a charge moſt unfounded; for if there was any one quality for which his abſent friend was pre-eminently diſtinguiſhed, it was his incorruptible integrity. Mr Nichols had obſerved, that the day would come when the conduct of the late Miniſters would be inquired into. He ſuppoſed by the obſervation, the weighty charge was preparing. He would aſſure the Hon. Gentleman, his Majeſty's late Miniſters had no diſpoſition to ſhrink from inquiry. With regard to what had fallen from Mr Tierney, he had only to obſerve, that he would find himſelf extremely miſtaken if he ſuppoſed the preſent Chancellor of the Exchequer would court his ſupport at the expence of the late Chancellor of the Exchequer. It might be proper to ſuggeſt, that the items in the account related to a war, voted by the Houſe juſt and neceſſary, and he would venture to ſay thought ſo by a great majority of the country,—*(a cry of hear! hear!)*—a war of aggreſſion on the part of France, a war in which every Engliſhman ſtaked his independence, his liberty, and every thing dear to him. What were the items of which it was ſaid they could

could not be read in a public market-place without exciting laughter and indignation? What were the ſubſidiary treaties this country had formed which an Hon. Member had compared to engagements with German butchers? Was this the language of a Britiſh Houſe of Commons? When Parliament had thought it neceſſary, for the ſucceſs of the cauſe on which the country was engaged, to employ the aid of Continental power, was it right or becoming to apply terms of reproach and opprobrium to thoſe Powers? The Right Hon. Gentleman (Mr Tierney) ſtill adhered to his obſervations in the charge which he had exhibited againſt the late Chancellor of the Exchequer, that of delaying accounts which ought to have been preſented before the Houſe. Upon that he muſt take leave to obſerve, it would have been as generous to have made that attack upon that Right Hon. Gentleman in his preſence. Alluſions were made to tranſactions in the year 1799, which if that Right Hon. Gentleman were preſent would be explained immediately. He believed that no perſon who ever knew that Right Hon. Gentleman, ſuſpected the integrity of his character. But if any Member of that Houſe had any thing to ſay againſt him, let him accuſe him in his preſence, and not in his abſence. He could not truſt himſelf with diſcourſing long upon this topic, for he felt a warmth upon it, which might lead him to uſe irregular expreſſions. He did not mean to treat lightly the talents of the Hon. Gentlement behind him (Mr Nicholls,) but he could not help admiring the zeal of the Miniſter's new allies; for much of the buſineſs of this day, he perceived, was, not to diſcuſs the matter regularly before the Houſe, it was rather to rehearſe the Creed of the Miniſter's new allies. [alluding to Mr Tierney and Mr Nicholls.] The Hon. Gentleman oppoſite to him, wiſhed the late Chancellor of the Exchequer's conduct to be reprobated, while he profeſſed to ſupport the meaſures of the preſent Miniſter. Now, Mr Dundas ſaid, he wiſhed to know, whether the Hon. Gentleman expected the preſent Miniſter to court his approbation, or the approbation of any man or ſet of men, at the expence of the character of the late Chancellor of the Exchequer? No, however powerful the aſſiſtance of theſe Gentlemen who were the Miniſter's new allies, might be, upon ſuch terms, he was ſure the preſent Miniſter would ſcorn to receive it. Whether after all that had paſt in Parliament, upon the war, could it be ſaid to be decent in an individual, out of a ſmall body of men called the Minority, to tell the Houſe that the items of expence in carrying on ſuch a war could not be read without ſcorn and indignation? After the war was over (at which no man rejoiced, Mr Dundas ſaid, more than he did) he did not think it proper to ſay more on this head of the diſcuſſion of this night. Now, as to the ſubject of the expedition to Egypt, did the Hon. Gentleman who to-night found fault with that expedition, and who profeſſed to be ſuch a friend to peace, imagine that if that expedition had not taken place, peace would have been obtained? The Hon. Gentleman thought he had found out, that, he perſuaded himſelf, if we conſidered the intereſts of this country in their true light, it would have been far better for us to have left Egypt in the hands of the French, than for us to have entailed on ourſelves the expence of that expedition.—Did that Hon. Gentleman recollect that we had any intereſt to protect in India? And, if he did ſo recollect, did he believe that our Indian poſſeſſions would have been in the ſame ſtate of ſecurity as they are at preſent, if the Egyptian expedition had not been undertaken? Or, to uſe the words of the Hon. Gentleman, if it had been ſuffered to remain in the hands of the French? The Hon. Gentleman might ſay ſo; but would he be able to find another man in England, who underſtood the intereſts of his country in India, to ſay ſo with him? He apprehended not. Cavils were made at the expence of the expedition to Egypt. Miniſters were not to blame for that; for it was thought by the moſt experienced officers, and thoſe whoſe knowledge qualified them beſt to form opinions upon it, that the reſiſtance of the French to our arms there would not have been great. Sir Ralph Abercromby himſelf, of whom no Briton could ſpeak without admiration, thought that the firſt blow by us would have been deciſive there; that the moment of the firſt aſſault would have been the deciſive moment of victory. It appeared otherwiſ—re-inforcements were ſent, and the Britiſh arms were crowned with glory.

glory. This was attended with expence —was that expence wonderful? It procured us Peace. We were all happy at that event, and he owned it was ſurpriſing to him, that this article, above all others, was made the ſubject of animadverſion. The expences of tranſporting the Indian army were certainly great, but they were unforeſeen. The difficulties attending the expedition had been under-rated. It was not conceived that the French had been in ſuch force. He ſpoke the ſentiments of a man of whom he could truſt himſelf to ſpeak. Sir Ralph Abercromby had ſaid, that no difficulty could attend the expedition; that, when the landing was effected, every thing was accomplished: and if an officer of his conſummate ſkill and experience, on the moſt mature deliberation, with every advice and information that Government could give him, was liable to ſuch a miſtake, who could be expected to be free from error?

Mr Tierney ſaid, he did not know whether the Hon. Gentleman (Mr Dundas) was a part of the Adminiſtration which he meant to ſupport. If he was, he begged to ſay, that he meant to ſupport the Hon. Gentleman (Mr Addington) and not him. He did not deſire the Hon. Gentleman's approbation; it was matter of perfect indifference to him, and perhaps without doors his diſapprobation might be a higher feather in his cap.—The Hon. Gentleman was diſſatisfied with this mode of ſupporting Adminiſtration—it was not unlikely that he might go aſtray—he was but a new beginner—this was his firſt eſſay in the buſineſs, and it was not extraordinary that he ſhould miſtake. The Hon. Gentleman, who, from a ſort of general philanthropy to all Adminiſtrations, was never found in oppoſition, had the benefit of experience, and was perfectly competent to ſet him right.

Mr Robſon ſaid, it was an alarming circumſtance to ſee the preſent Chancellor of the Exchequer identify himſelf with the former; whoſe meaſures he had defended in the ſame manner as if they had been his own. It was alarming to hear the man now in office defend the unbounded extravagance of the late Miniſters, who had waſted 300 millions of the public money That part of the Extraordinaries which related to Egypt, was an expenditure not to be defended; it was the act of the late Miniſter; and it was adopted by the preſent. No ſuch expence would ever have been incurred, had the late Miniſter not broken the Treaty of El-Ariſch, but permitted the French to evacuate Egypt.

Mr Simeon, defended the Reſolution; which was read a ſecond time and agreed to.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer ſtated, that previous to raiſing the ſums neceſſary for the Supplies of the year, it was incumbent to vote a ſum for the purpoſe of ſatisfying the immediate demands of the Public Service. He therefore moved "That the ſum of 2,100,000l. be raiſed by way of Loan or Exchequer Bills."

The Reſolution was then agreed to.

Monthly Regiſter for Feb. 1802.

Interesting Intelligence from the London Gazettes.

From the London Gazette, Feb. 6. 1802.

Admiralty-Office, Feb. 6.

Extract of a Letter from Henry William Bayntun, Eſq. Captain of his Majeſty's Ship Cumberland, and Senior Officer for the time being, of his Majeſty's ſhips and veſſels at Jamaica, to Evan Nepean, Eſq. dated at Port-Royal, Oct. 11, 1801.

A Brilliant little exploit was performed the other day, by two boats of the Lark; a copy of Lieut. Johnſtone's (the acting Captain) letter on that occaſion I think right to tranſmit; at the ſame time to remark, that Lieutenant Paiſley has, in many inſtances, performed the like.

Lark, Port Antonio,
Sept. 17. 1801.

My Lord,

I arrived in this port yeſterday evening, having quitted my ſtation on Tueſday laſt, for the purpoſe of landing ſome priſoners of war which we took in a Spaniſh

Spaniſh privateer ſchooner on the 13th ult. We had chaced her the whole of the afternoon, cloſe in with the Cuba ſhore, till dark, when ſhe took ſhelter within the Portilla Reefs; I immediately ſent Lieut. Paſley with the yawl and cutter, Mr M'Cloud, midſhipman, and 16 men in each.

About half paſt ten Mr Paſley found her at anchor in the place he expected; ſhe was waiting the attack in readineſs, which ſhe commenced by a diſcharge from one nine and two four pounders, which ſeverely wounded ſeveral in each boat.

Notwithſtanding, they boarded, and after a ſhort but ſevere conteſt, they carried her. She proved the Eſperance, from St. Jago, which port ſhe left on the 8th Auguſt, and ſince that time had taken the Eliza ſloop and Betſey brig belonging to Kingſton. She was commanded by Joſeph Callie; and from the beſt accounts I have been able to collect ſince, ſhe had on board, when the action commenced, 45 men, 21 of whom were killed, and 6 wounded. The Captain and all the Officers were amongſt the former.

On our part we have to lament the loſs of John Jones, coxſwain of the cutter, who was killed early in the action, Mr M'Cleod and twelve ſeamen wounded.

I have been able to land the priſoners under the ſecurity of the garriſon, having promiſed to take them again on board on my way to Port-Royal. And I am much indebted to the Commanding-officer, Major Cod, of the 60th, who has had the goodneſs to receive, under the care of their ſurgeon, Mr M'Cloud and four others, who are thought to be the moſt dangerouſly wounded; I ſhall ſail immediately, and loſe not a moment to regain my ſtation.

I am, &c.

J. Johnſtone.

From the London Gazette, Feb. 20.

Admiralty-Office, Feb. 20.

Copy of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Rainier, commander of his Majeſty's ſhips and veſſels in the Eaſt Indies, to Evan Nepean, Eſq. dated in Madras Road, the 29th Sept. 1801.

SIR,

I have at preſent nothing very particular to communicate to you, for their Lordſhips' information, beyond what may be collected from the diſpoſition-liſt of his Majeſty's ſquadron under my command, hereby incloſed, except the capture of the French National frigate Chiffonne, in Mahé-Road, at the Seyohelles, on the 19th ult. force as per margin *, by his Majeſty's Ship La Sybille, Capt. Charles Adam, after a ſhort and gallant action, in which a well-conſtructed battery of the frigate's forecaſtle guns, furniſhed with a furnace for heating red-hot ſhot, co-operated in her defence. This circumſtance, added to the advantage the French frigate derived from her poſition, being at anchor, while his Majeſty's ſhip had to ſteer for her opponent, at the greateſt hazard, through a winding and intricate channel, formed by many dangerous ſhoals, with no other guide than as the water was ſeen to diſcolour on them by a man at the maſt-head, placed there for that purpoſe, may be fairly eſtimated to overbalance the trifling difference of the calibre of the metal of the enemy's ſhip, and juſtly entitle Captain Adam, his officers and crew, to the diſtinguiſhed honour of having taken a ſhip of equal force.

The Chiffonne was commanded by a Monſieur Guieſſe, ſailed from Nantz 14th April laſt, is a fine new ſhip, had never been at Sea before, completely armed and equipped; her errand to the Seyochelles was to land thirty-two perſons who had been ſuſpected of being concerned in an attempt on the life of the Firſt Conſul of the French Republic. As his Majeſty's ſhip Suffolk will proceed ſhortly with convoy to Spithead, I ſhall defer to that opportunity the forwarding a copy of Captain Adam's letter on the occaſion, with other particulars; but it may be proper to acquaint you, that, on the 15th of May, near the coaſt of Brazil, the Chiffonne took a Portugueſe ſchooner; and three days after a frigate of that nation, named L'Hirondelle, armed *en flute*, with twenty-four carronades, twenty-four pounders, after a ſhort action, but after throwing her guns overboard, and taking out her ſtores, ſuffered her to go about her buſineſs, the Captain and Officers giving their parole for themſelves and crew. On the 16th of June, off the Cape, ſhe captured

* Main deck, 28 12-pounders.—Quarter deck, 6 8-pounders; 4 36-pound carronades.—Forecaſtle, 4 8-pounders; with 250 men.

captured the Engliſh ſhip Bellona, laden with a very valuable cargo, from Calcutta, bound to England, who got ſafe into the Mauritius.

I have only to add, that I have given orders for the purchaſe of the Chiffonne for his Majeſty's ſervice, and ſhall place her on the eſtabliſhment of a thirty-ſix gun frigate, agreeably to her dimenſions, and that of her maſts and yards.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Peter Rainier.

Killed and Wounded on board La Sybille.

1 Seamen killed; 1 Midſhipman wounded.

Killed and Wounded on board La Chiffonne.—23 Seamen, killed; 30 Seamen wounded.

From the London Gazette, Feb. 23.

Admiralty-Office, Feb. 23.

Copy of a Letter from Vice-Admiral Sir Roger Curtis, Bart. Commander in Chief of his Majeſty's ſhips and veſſels at the Cape of Good Hope, to Evan Nepean, Eſq. dated at the Cape, Dec. 20, 1801.

SIR,

The private ſhip of war, the Chance, belonging to Mr Hogan, of this place, and commanded by Mr William White, having been on a cruize on the coaſt of Peru, returned on the 11th inſt. The commander of the Chance addreſſed a letter to me, containing an account of his proceedings during his cruize. He appears to have uniformly acted with great propriety; but his conduct, and that of his officers and men, was, on two occaſions, ſo highly creditable to them, that I ſend his account of theſe occurrences, for their Lordſhips information.

I am, &c.

Roger Curtis.

Extracts of a Letter from Mr William White, commander of the Chance private ſhip of war, fitted out at the Cape of Good Hope, to Vice-Admiral Sir Roger Curtis, Bart.

"At four P. M. on the 19th of Auguſt, the iſland of St Laurence bearing N.E. two leagues, ſaw a large ſhip bearing down towards us; at nine brought her to cloſe action, and engaged her within half piſtol-ſhot for an hour and a half, but finding her metal much heavier than ours, and full of men, boarded her on the ſtarboard quarter, lathing the Chance's bowſprit to the mizen-maſt, and after a deſperate reſiſtance of three quarters of an hour, beat them off the upper deck, but they ſtill defended from the cabin and lower deck with long pikes in a moſt gallant manner, till they had twenty-five men killed, and twenty-eight wounded, of whom the Captain was one; getting final poſſeſſion, ſhe was ſo cloſe to the iſland, that with much difficulty we got her off ſhore, all her braces and rigging being cut to pieces by our grape ſhot. She proved to be the new Spaniſh ſhip Amiable Maria, of about ſix hundred tons, mounting fourteen guns, eighteen, twelve, and nine-pounders, braſs, and carrying one hundred and twenty men, from Conception bound to Lima, laden with corn, wine, bale goods, &c. On this occaſion I am much concerned to ſtate Mr Bennett, a very valuable and brave officer, was ſo dangerouſly wounded, that he died three days after the action; the ſecond and fourth mates, marine officer, and two ſeamen, badly wounded by pikes, but ſince recovered. On the 20th, both ſhips being much diſabled, and having more priſoners than crew, I ſtood cloſe in, and ſent eighty-ſix on ſhore in the large ſhip's launch to Lima; we afterwards learned that ſeventeen of the wounded had died.

"At four A. M. on the 24th of Sept. ſtanding in to cut out from the Roads of Puna, in Guiaquill Bay, a ſhip that I had information of mounting twenty-two guns, fell in with a large Spaniſh brig with a broad pendant at main top-maſt-head; at five ſhe commenced fire on us, but ſhe being at a diſtance to the windward, and deſirous to bring her to cloſe action, we received three broadſides before a ſhot was returned; at half paſt five being yard-arm and yard-arm, commenced our fire with great effect, and after a very ſevere action of two hours and three quarters, during the latter part ſhe made every effort to get away, I had the honour to ſee the Spaniſh flag ſtruck to the Chance; ſhe proved to be the Spaniſh man of war brig Limeno, mounting 18 long 6-pound guns, commanded by Commodore Don Philip de Marinez, the Senior Officer of the Spaniſh Marine on that coaſt, and manned with 140 men, ſent from Guiaquill, for the expreſs purpoſe of taking the Chance, and then to proceed to the Northward to take three Engliſh whalers lying in one of their ports; ſhe had

14 men killed and 7 wounded; the Captain mortally wounded, who died two days after the action; the Chance had two men killed and one wounded, and had only 50 men at the commencement of the action, mounting 16 guns 12 and 6-pounders."

(*End of the Gazettes.*)

SCOTLAND.

EDINBURGH.

Wednesday, Feb. 10, 1802.

This day Andrew Lawrie, late letter-carrier in the General Poſt Office, convicted before the High Court of Juſticiary of abſtracting money from a letter, was executed at the weſt end of the tolbooth purſuant to his ſentence. He was aſſiſted in his devotions by the Rev. Mr Ritchie, one of the miniſters of the city, the Rev. Mr Struthers, of the Relief Congregation, and the Rev. Mr Porteous, Chaplain of the Tolbooth. His behaviour was ſuch as became his unhappy ſituation.

Feb. 11. The Collection for the Female Society of Glaſgow, at the Chapel of Eaſe, there, amounted to upwards of One Hundred and Two Pounds Three Shillings and Fourpence.

23. At an Extraordinary meeting of the Magiſtrates and Council of Edinburgh, a petition was ſigned by the Lord Provoſt, and ordered to be immediately forwarded to London, to be preſented to the Houſe of Commons, praying for leave to bring in a bill into Parliament for enlarging and extending the police of the city; to extend the Royalty over the Lands of Bellevue, and certain lands on the eaſt and weſt of theſe lands; to purchaſe houſes and grounds to enlarge York Place; and for various other public purpoſes intended for the improvement and ornament of the city.

24. *Copper Coinage.*—This day the Lord Provoſt, Magiſtrates, and Council, agreed to forward a petition to the Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee eſpecially appointed to conſider the coins of the Realm, for an additional Copper Coinage, the want of which is now felt as a moſt ſerious inconvenience.

24. At a reſpectable meeting of the Spirit Dealers of Edinburgh and Leith, held here this day, it was unanimouſly agreed to recommend the Meaſures newly regulated by the Dean of Guild, being a more equal diviſion of the gallon meaſure in preſent uſe.

Feb. 24. The Preſbytery of Edinburgh appointed a Call to be moderated on the 11th of March, for Mr Anderſon, Miniſter of Eaſtwood, to be Miniſter of the College Church.

An account of all places for Life or Lives, in Scotland, whether held by patent or otherwiſe: ſpecifying the dates of ſuch patents or other inſtruments by which ſuch places are held; the names of the perſons who hold the ſame; and the ſalaries and fees belonging thereto;—And alſo, a like account of all patents of ſuch places granted to any perſon or perſons in reverſion:

Henry Dundas, Eſq. Keeper of the Privy Seal, patent for life, 27th May, 1800. ſalary 3000l.

Frederick Campbell, Eſq. Lord Clerk Regiſter, patent during pleaſure, 2d Nov. 1768; privy ſeal during life, 22d April, 1777, ſalary 1200l.

Ilay Campbell, Eſq. Lord Preſident of the Court of Seſſion, royal ſign manual, for life, 26th October, 1789, ſalary 3000l.

David Roſs, of Ankerville, Eſq. Lord of Seſſion, royal ſign manual, for life, 8th February, 1776, ſalary 1200l.

David Rae, of Eſkgrove, Eſq. Lord of Seſſion, royal ſign manual, for life, 6th Sept. 1782, ſalary 1200l.

William Nairn, of Dunſinnan, Eſq. Lord of Seſſion, royal ſign manual, for life, 27th February, 1786, ſalary 1200l.

William Craig, Eſq. Lord of Seſſion, royal ſign manual, for life, 13th Dec. 1792, ſalary 1200l.

William Baillie, of Polkemmet, Eſq. Lord of Seſſion, royal ſign manual, for life, 23d Sept. 1793, ſalary 1200l.

David Smyth, of Methven, Eſq. Lord of Seſſion, royal ſign manual, for life, 24th Sept. 1793, ſalary 1200l.

Sir William Miller of Glenlee, Bart. Lord of Seſſion, royal ſign manual, for life, 8th May, 1795, ſalary 1200l.

Allan M'Conochie, of Meadowbank, Eſq. Lord of Seſſion, royal ſign manual, for life, 25th February, 1796, ſalary 1200l.

Robert Cullen, Eſq. Lord of Seſſion, royal ſign manual, for life, 6th July, 1796, ſalary 1200l.

William Honyman, of Armadale, Eſq. Lord of Seſſion, royal ſign manual, for life, 5th Jan. 1797, ſalary 1200l.

William M'Leod Bannatyne, of Bannatyne, Eſq. Lord of Seſſion, royal ſign manual,

manual, for life, 4th May, 1799, ſalary 1220l.

Claud Boſwell, of Balmuto, Eſq. Lord of Seſſion, royal ſign manual, for life, 14th June 1799, ſalary 1200l.

George Fergusſon, of Hermand, Eſq. Lord of Seſſion, royal ſign manual, for life, 4th July 1799, ſalary 1200l.

N. B. One Lord of Seſſion vacant, royal ſign manual, for life, 1200l.

John Pringle, Eſq. Clerk to his Majeſty's Proceſs before the Seſſion, royal ſign manual, for life, 18th May 1799, ſalary 40l.

William Riddell, Eſq. Writer of Hornings, privy ſeal, during life, 18th July 1787, ſalary 50l.

James Newbigging, Eſq. Keeper of the Regiſter of Hornings, patent during life, ſalary 20l.

Robert Moffat, Macer of Seſſion, privy ſeal, during life, 2d June 1782, ſalary 10l.

Thomas Brodie, Macer of Seſſion, privy ſeal, during life, 28th Auguſt 1792, ſalary 10l.

John Ritchie, Macer of Seſſion, privy ſeal, during life, 2d June 1795, ſalary 10l.

James Duke of Montroſe, Lord Juſtice General, patent during life, 14th January 1797, 2000l.

David Rae, of Eſkgrove, Eſq. Lord Juſtice Clerk, patent during life, 24th May 1799, ſalary 1200l.

William Nairn, of Dunfinnan, Eſq. Lord of Juſticiary, royal ſign manual, for life, 14th December 1792, ſalary 500l.

William Craig, Eſq. Lord of Juſticiary, royal ſign manual, for life, 31ſt March 1795, ſalary 500l.

David Smith, of Methven, Eſq. Lord of Juſticiary, royal ſign manual, for life, 5th February 1796, ſalary 500l.

Robert Cullen, Eſq. Lord of Juſticiary, royal ſign manual, for life, 21ſt June 1799, ſalary 500l.

William Honyman, of Armadale, Eſq. Lord of Juſticiary, royal ſign manual, for life, 22d June 1799, ſalary 500l.

Robert Dundas M'Queen, Eſq. Clerk of Juſticiary, commiſſion for life, by Lord Juſtice Clerk, and Treaſury warrant, 16th May 1795, ſalary 200l.

——— His Deputy commiſſioned for life, by Lord Juſtice Clerk, and Clerk of Juſticiary and Treaſury warrant, ſalary 150l.

Andrew Muriſon, Macer of Juſticiary, Commiſſioned by Lord Juſtice General and Treaſury warrant, during life, 16th Aug. 1760, ſalary 30l.

John Grant, Macer of Juſticiary, Commiſſioned as above, 21ſt July, 1767, ſalary 30l.

Alexander M'Dougall, Macer of Juſticiary, Commiſſioned as above, 11th March, 1789, ſalary 30l.

John Whittet, Macer of Juſticiary, Commiſſioned by the Magiſtrates of Edinburgh and Treaſury warrant, during life, 14th March, 1794, ſalary 4l. 3s. 4d.

Edward Innes, Macer of Juſticiary, commiſſioned as above, 2d March, 1796, ſalary 4l. 3s. 4d.

[John High, Dempſter of Juſticiary, Commiſſioned as above, 15th Aug. 1778, ſalary 5l.]

Robert Dundas, Eſq. Lord Chief Baron of Exchequer, patent during life, 7th May, 1801, ſalary 3000l.

The perſon deputed by his Lordſhip to keep the Exchequer Seal, patent during life, 7th May, 1801, ſalary 100l.

Fletcher Norton, Eſq. Baron of Exchequer, patent during life, 20th Feb. 1776, ſalary 1200l.

Sir John Dalrymple, Bart. Baron of Exchequer, patent during life, 9th May, 1776, ſalary 1200l.

Arch. Cockburn, Eſq. Baron of Exchequer, patent during life, 9th May, 1790, ſalary 1200l.

George Buchan Hepburn, Eſq. Baron of Exchequer, patent during life, 31ſt Dec. 1800, ſalary 1200l.

Sir Patrick Murray, his Majeſty's Remembrancer, patent during life, 31ſt July, 1792, ſalary 500l.

Arch. Ferrier, his Majeſty's Treaſurer Remembrancer, patent during life, 23d April, 1796, ſalary 200l.

James Townſend Oſwald, Eſq. Principal Auditor of Exchequer, patent during life, 29th Jan. 1768, ſalary 1200l.

James Walker and John Arch. Murray, Eſqrs. Clerks of the Pipe, patent during life, 21ſt, Aug. 1795, ſalary 200l.

James Moutgomery, Eſq. Preſenter of Signatures, privy ſeal, during life, 1ſt June, 1797, ſalary 200l.

Mr Thos. Weir, Examiner of Exchequer, Commiſſioned from Barons of Exchequer during life, and Treaſury Warrant, 3d Feb. 1801, ſalary 50l.

George and Patrick Walker, Deputy Uſhers of Exchequer, commiſſioned from Lord Bellenden, for life, and Treaſury Warrant, 23d Dec. 1791, ſalary 50l.

William Veitch, door-keeper, commiſſioned from Deputy Uſher of Exch[illegible] qu[illegible]

quer, for life, and Treaſury Warrant, 2d Aug. 1781, ſalary 30l.

William Allan, door-keeper, commiſſioned as above, 24th Nov. 1785, ſalary 30l.

Robert Dundas, Eſq. keeper of the Regiſter of Sazines in the ſhire of Edinburgh, &c. patent for life, 21ſt December 1799, ſalary 200l.

Robert Hudſon Cay, Eſq. Judge of the Court of Admiralty in Scotland, patent for life, 31ſt Dec. 1800, ſalary 400l.

Andrew Balfour, Eſq. Commiſſary of Edinburgh, privy ſeal during life, 5th Auguſt, 1774, ſalary 100l.

George Wallace, Eſq. Commiſſary of Edinburgh, privy ſeal during life, 5th Dec. 1791, ſalary 100l.

John Anſtruther, Eſq. Commiſſary of Edinburgh, privy ſeal during life, 19th July 1799, ſalary 100l.

Arch. Campbell, Eſq. Commiſſary of Edinburgh, privy ſeal during life, 24th Dec. 1800, ſalary 100l.

Sir James Erſkine, Director of the Chancellary, patent during life, 17th Jan. 1788, ſalary 25l.

Robert Auriol Drummond Hay, Earl of Kinnoul, Lyon King of Arms, patent during life, 26th May, 1796, ſalary 600l. reverſion to his ſon Lord Duplin.

Thomas Hulband, Herald, commiſſioned from the Lord Lyon for life, and Treaſury Warrant, March 26th, 1765, ſalary 25l.

Kenneth M'Kenzie, Herald, commiſſioned as above, 20th July 1767, ſalary 25l.

James Mitchell, Herald, commiſſioned as above, 19th Feb. 1795, ſalary 25l.

Robert Grant, Herald, commiſſioned as above, 29th Jan. 1796, ſalary 25l.

Thomas Small, Herald, commiſſioned as above, 31ſt March, 1801, ſalary 25l.

——One Herald vacant, commiſſioned as above, ſalary 25l.

James Laurie, Purſuivant, commiſſion from the Lord Lyon, for life, and Treaſury Warrant, 26th June 1782, ſalary 16l. 13s. 4d.

James Geddes, Purſuivant, commiſſioned as above, 5th Dec. 1786, ſalary 16l. 13s. 4d.

John Grieve, Purſuivant, commiſſioned as above, 15th Dec. 1790, ſalary 16l. 13s. 4d.

Robert Thomſon, Purſuivant, commiſſioned as above, 5th Jan. 1795, ſalary 16l. 13s. 4d.

David Anderſon, Purſuivant, commiſſioned as above, 6th Feb. 1796, ſalary 16l. 13s. 4d.

Alexander Law, Purſuivant, commiſſioned as above, 1ſt April 1796, ſalary 16l. 13s. 4d.

Alex. Moir, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute of the Shire of Aberdeen, royal ſign manual, *ad vitam aut culpam*. 18th Dec. 1795, ſalary 25l.

Edward M'Cormick, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhire of Ayr, commiſſioned as above, Feb. 16, 1793, ſalary 25l.

Robert Campbell, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhire of Argyle, commiſſioned as above, 30th Dec. 1775, ſalary 30l.

John Swinton, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhire of Berwick, commiſſioned as above, 23d Sept. 1793, ſalary 20l.

James Urquhart, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhire of Banff, commiſſioned as above, 19th March 1794, ſalary 20l.

John James Edmonſtone, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the Shire of Bute, commiſſioned as above, 28th May, 1799, ſalary 20l.

James Traill, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhires of Caithneſs and Sutherland, commiſſioned as above, 10th Auguſt 1782. ſalary 25l.

Robert Craigie, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhire of Dumfries, commiſſioned as above, 30th Nov. 1791, ſalary 25l.

James Colquhoun, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhire of Dumbarton, commiſſioned as above, 23d Nov. 1775, ſalary 20l.

James Clerk, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhire of Edinburgh, commiſſioned as above, Nov. 16, 1793, ſalary 50l.

George Abercromby, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhires of Elgin and Nairn, commiſſioned as above, 17th Sept. 1783, ſalary 20l.

Niel Ferguſſon, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhires of Fife and Kinroſs, commiſſioned as above, 17th June 1799, ſalary 25l.

Patrick Chalmers, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhire of Forfar, commiſſioned as above, 1ſt May 1769, ſalary 20l.

Simon Fraſer, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhire of Inverneſs, commiſſioned as above, 6th April 1781, ſalary 30l.

Alexander Burnet, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhire of Kincardine, commiſſioned as above, 2d May 1783, ſalary 20l.

Sir Alex. Gordon, Sheriff-Depute for the

the ſhire of Kirkcudbright, commiſſioned as above, 7th June 1784, ſalary 200l.

Robert Hamilton, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhire of Lanark, commiſſioned as above, 10th March 1797, ſalary 250l.

David Hume, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhire of Linlithgow, commiſſioned as above, 23d Sept. 1793, ſalary 200l.

William Law, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhire of Haddington, commiſſioned as above, 16th Feb. 1762, ſalary 200l.

Wm. Rae, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhire of Orkney, commiſſioned as above, 6th May, 1801, ſalary 250l.

James Wolfe Murray, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhire of Peebles, commiſſioned as above, 21ſt April 1789, ſalary 200l.

Archibald Campbell, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhire of Perth, commiſſioned as above, 23d September 1793, ſalary 300l.

John Connel, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhire of Renfrew, commiſſioned as above, 22d March 1796, ſalary 200l.

Wm. Oliver, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhire of Roxburgh, commiſſioned as above, 13th Nov. 1780, ſalary 200l.

Donald M'Leod, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhires of Roſs and Cromarty, commiſſioned as above, 5th Aug. 1774, ſalary 300l.

Walter Scott, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhire of Selkirk, commiſſioned as above, 16th Dec. 1799, ſalary 200l.

David Williamſon, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhires of Stirling and Clackmannan, commiſſioned as above, 18th April 1799, ſalary 250l.

John Buſhby Maitland, Eſq. Sheriff-Depute for the ſhire of Wigton or Galloway, commiſſioned as above, 1ſt Dec. 1794, ſalary 200l.

Joſeph Reneagle, Trumpeter, privy ſeal, during life, 27th March, 1775, ſalary 16l. 16s. 4d.

Nathaniel Gow, Trumpeter, privy ſeal, during life, 13th Aug. 1781, ſalary 16l. 16s. 4d.

Wm. Shepherd, Trumpeter, privy ſeal, during life, 21ſt April 1794, ſalary 16l. 16s. 4d.

Daniel Dewar, Trumpeter, privy ſeal, during life, 21ſt Dec. 1789, ſalary 16l. 16s. 4d.

Wm. Napier, Trumpeter, privy ſeal, during life, 20th Jan. 1786, ſalary 16l. 16s. 4d.

Alex. Napier, jun. Trumpeter, privy ſeal, during life, 14th Sept. 1792, 16l. 16s. 4d.

Thomas Sinclair Abercromby, Eſq. his Majeſty's Limner, privy ſeal, during life, 8th July, 1793, ſalary 100l,

Duke of Hamilton, Hereditary Keeper of his Majeſty's Palace of Holyrood Houſe, hereditary, ſalary 46l.

John Moore, Under-keeper thereof, commiſſioned from the Duke of Hamilton for life, and Treaſury warrant, 12th June 1792, ſalary 50l.

Wm. Kennowie, Porter thereof, commiſſioned as above, 11th July 1792, ſalary 37l. 15s. 6d.

Dr Daniel Rutherford, Regius Profeſſor of Botany in the Univerſity of Edinburgh, privy ſeal, during life, 20th Dec. 1786, ſalary 50l.

Dr John Gillies, his Majeſty's Hiſtoriographer, patent during life, 15th June, 1793, ſalary 200l.

George Dempſter, Eſq. Secretary to the Moſt Ancient and Moſt Noble Order of the Thiſtle, patent during life, 21ſt Auguſt, 1765, ſalary 300l.

Robert Quarme, Eſq. Uſher to the ſaid Noble Order, royal ſign manual for life, 6th May, 1800, ſalary 100l.

Archibald Davidſon, Eſq. Dean thereof, royal ſign manual for life, 27th Dec. 1791, ſalary 50l.

Dr John Walker, Profeſſor of Natural Hiſtory, and Keeper of the Muſeum of the Univerſity of Edinburgh, privy ſeal, during life, 12th June 1799, ſalary 70l.

Dr Robert Blair, Profeſſor of Aſtronomy there, royal ſign manual, during life, 28th Sept. 1785, ſalary 120l.

Mr William Meikleham, Profeſſor of Aſtronomy in the Univerſity of Glaſgow, privy ſeal, during life, 23d Auguſt 1799, ſalary 50l.

John Crawford, Eſq. Chamberlain of the Lordſhip of Fife and Strathern, privy ſeal, during the King's life, 28th June 1775, ſalary 600l.

———— his deputy, privy ſeal, during the King's life, 28th June 1775, ſalary 20l.

Mark Pringle, Eſq. Chamberlain of Ettrick Foreſt, during life, 3d March 1786, ſalary 500l.

———— More to his Deputy, patent during life, 3d March, 1786, ſalary 20l.

N. B. This account extracted from a return from Scotland, dated 24th June 1801.

BIRTHS.

BIRTHS.

At Roſe-Caſtle, the Lady of the Hon. and right Rev. the Lord Biſhop of Carliſle, a daughter, being her Ladyſhip's thirteenth.

The Lady of George Harley Drummond, Eſq. a ſon.

Mrs Oliphant, of Condie, a ſon.

The Lady of Sir Richard Bempde Johnſtone, Bart of Hacknefs, a daughter.

At Acton Reynold Hall, the Lady of Andrew Corbett, Eſq. a daughter.

At her houſe in Buckingham-ſtreet, Fitzroy-ſquare, Mrs Menzies, a ſon.

At Edinburgh, the Lady of Charles Badham, Eſq of London, a daughter,

At Bath, the Lady of Dr William Robertſon, a daughter.

Mrs Auldjo, of Finſbury-ſquare, London, a ſon.

At Kelſo, Mrs Cunningham, wife of James Cunningham, Eſq. a ſon.

In Gildford-ſtreet, London, the Lady of James Macintoſh, Eſq. a ſon.

At Buſhy Park, Mrs Jordan, a ſon.

1801, *Dec.* 11. At Thurcroft Hall, the Lady of Hott Sitwell, Eſq. of Bucknell, a daughter.

30. At Gibraltar, the Lady of Colonel Hay, of the Barff-ſhire regt. a daughter.

1802. *Jan.* 24. Mrs Duff, of Muirtown, a daughter,

26. At Newabbey, Mrs Charles Stewart, younger of Shambelly, a ſon.

28. Mrs Ruſſel, of Aden, a daughter.

30. At Drum Houſe, Lady Mary Hay, a daughter.

Feb. 2. Mrs Lawrenſon, of Inverighty, a ſon.

13. Mrs Duff, of Fetteresſo, a ſon,

16. At her houſe in Princes Street, Mrs Fraſer Tytler, younger of Belnain, a daughter.

18. Mrs Farquharſon, of Howden, a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Robert Dewar, Eſq. of Clapham, to Miſs Weſt of the ſame place.

At Sands, Capt. Oliphant of the 72d Reg. to Miſs Hannah Johnſtone, third daughter to the late James Johnſton, Eſq. of Sands.

At London, Samuel Young, of North Audley-ſtreet, Eſq to Miſs Ann Bigge, of Drury lane Theatre.

At St Mary's, Lambeth, Patrick Playfair, of Glaſgow, Eſq. to Miſs Jane Playfair, ſecond daughter of the Rev Principal Playfair, of the Univerſity of St Andrews.

At Leith, Charles Kerr, Eſq. of Cardle Street, to Miſs Marion Sharp, daughter of Francis Sharp. Eſq. Comptroller to his Majeſty's Cuſtoms at Leith.

Mr A. Ogilvie, of Charleſtown, to Miſs Dorothy Boſwell, daughter of Mr Alexander Boſwell, of Berwick.

At Wakefield, Major Hall, of the 87th regiment of foot, to Miſs Charnock.

1801, *Dec* 6. At New York, Mr John Patrick, of that place, merchant, ſecond ſon of the late John Patrick, Eſq of Treehorn, Ayrſhire, to Miſs Sarah Ann Stewart, of New York.

1802. *Jan.* 29. At the Lord Juſtice Clerk's, by the Rev Mr. Sandford, James Boyd, Eſq. to Miſs Douglas, eldeſt daughter of the late Lieut Gen. Douglas, of the 5th Dragoon Guards.

—. At Antrim, Captain Graham, of the Dumbarton Fencibles, to Miſs Macartney, daughter of the Rev Dr Macartney.

Feb. 1. At Edinburgh, John Stein, Eſq. M. P. to Miſs Buſhby, daughter of John Buſhby, Eſq Tinwald Downs.

—. At Stitchell Houſe, Archibald Tod, Eſq. of Drygrange, Writer to the Signet, to Miſs Elizabeth Pringle, ſecond daughter of Sir James Pringle of Stitchell, Bart.

—. At Mr Stevenſon's of Ellis Bank, near Glaſgow, Mr Robert Bowden, of South Carolina, to Miſs Charles Fullarton, daughter of Mr Alexander Fullarton, late Land Surveyor of the Cuſtoms at Perth.

2. At Inverneil, Argyleſhire, Roger Pocklington jun Eſq of Winthorpe Houſe, Nottinghamſhire, to Miſs Jane Campbell, daughter of Sir James Campbell, of Inverneil.

4 At Newport, Iſle of Wight, Major Young, of the 8th regiment, to Miſs Janet Sutherland, ſecond daughter of the late Captain Sutherland.

—. At Edinburgh, Mr M. Ogle, Bookſeller in Glaſgow, to Miſs Lillias Storie, youngeſt daughter of the late Mr Alexander Storie, merchant, Edinburgh.

11. At Inverneſs, William M'Intoſh, Eſq. of Balneſpick, to Miſs Emilia Colin Chiſholm, daughter of William Chiſholm, Eſq late Provoſt of Inverneſs.

—. The Rev. Mr James Thorburn, Miniſter of Kingarth, in the Iſland of Bute, to Miſs Mary Stewart.

12. At Dundee, John Murray, Eſq. younger of Lintroſe, to Miſs Anne Gray, daughter of the late John Gray Eſq. of Baledgarno.

16 At Edinburgh, Mr Archibald Brown, Surgeon and Druggiſt in Glaſgow, to Miſs Marion Brown, daughter of the deceaſed Mr Alexander Brown, late farmer at Gorgie.

22. At Greenock, Capt. Thomas Geils, of the 3d. Guards, to Miſs Dorcas Tucker, of that town.

—. Mr John Mackay, Edinburgh, to Miſs

Miſs Jean Dunlop, daughter of Walter Dunlop, Eſq. Whitemoor.

Feb. 22. At Kelſo, Mr Wm Braidwood, jun. of Edinburgh, to Miſs Pattiſon, daughter of Mr Ralph Pattiſon, of Wooler.

DEATHS.

At an advanced age, at her houſe in Harley-ſtreet, Lady Anſtruther, of Fifeſhire. She was wife of the late Sir John Anſtruther, and mother to the preſent Chief Juſtice of Bengal.

Mr Harry Michie, of the Book Office, Eaſt India Houſe. He has left a conſiderable property behind him, totally unknown, it is believed, to his relations, who are obſcure in ſome part of Scotland.

At Bath, after a few minutes indiſpoſition, the Earl of Belmore. His Lordſhip is ſucceeded in his titles and eſtate by his only ſon Lord Corry.

Lady C. Nares, third daughter of the Duke of Marlborough.

At London, the Counteſs of Leiceſter.

At Stafford-place, Pimlico, J. Brenton, Eſq. Rear-Admiral in his Majeſty Navy.

At Twickenham, in the 89th year of his age, the Right Hon. Welbore Ellis Agar, Lord Mendip; a nobleman who made a conſpicuous figure in different Adminiſtrations for a long ſeries of years.

At the houſe of Mr Coutts, in Piccadilly, the infant, and only ſon of Earl Guildford.

Lady Catharine Bligh, eldeſt daughter of the Earl of Darnley.

At London, Aubrey Beauclerk, Duke of St Albans, aged 62. He is ſucceeded by his ſon, the Earl of Burford.

Near Milton, in Kent, George Auguſtus Delance, Eſq. late commander of his Majeſty's ſloop, Ann; a moſt meritorious and worthy officer. During the unhappy mutiny at the Nore, in the year 1797, he was ſecond Lieutenant and Commanding Officer on board the Repulſe, which, by his reſolute and determined exertions, was detached from ſeveral other mutinous ſhips, after ſuſtaining a heavy fire from two 74's, while endeavouring to eſcape into the harbour at Sheerneſs; juſt at the accompliſhment of his object, a ſhot unfortunatly ſhattered his left leg, which ſoon afterwards was amputated. The Admiralty, from a high ſenſe of his officer-like conduct, and ſpirited exertions, promoted him to the rank in which he died.

At the Ball, Glouceſter Houſe, Hotwells, Major Henry Vaughan Lane, in the prime of life, formerly of the 84th regiment, and late of Cork; after dancing ſome time, he complained to his partner that he was ſeized with a paralytic ſtroke, and every medical aſſiſtance was rendered without effect.

In Dublin, Mr Samuel Dick, merchant, whoſe property is eſtimated at upwards of 400,000l.

Paul Vaillant, Eſq. Bookſeller in London He ſerved the office of Sheriff for London, when the Earl of Ferrers, was executed for the murder of his Steward, in 1760.

Lately, at Chalk Farm, the youngeſt daughter of General Floyd, of a ſcarlet fever and ſore throat; and the week following Mrs Floyd, the child's mother, of the ſame complaint, occaſioned by fondly nurſing it in her boſom, notwithſtanding the expoſtulations of her huſband and her friends.

At Aberdeen, Mr William Duncan, one of the Maſters of the Grammar ſchool.

At Edinburgh, Mr David Murray, one of the Depute Clerks of Seſſion.

At Glaſgow, Alex. Low, Eſq. merchant, late one of the Magiſtrates of that city.

At Glaſgow, after a ſhort illneſs, the Rev. Dr William Lockhart, Miniſter of St Andrew's Church in that city, in the 58th year of his age, and 30th of his miniſtry.

At Glaſgow, in the 69th year of his age, Mr John M'Lean, of Kilchoan.

At Paiſley, the Rev. Mr Patrick Hutchiſon, Miniſter of the Relief Congregation there.

At Greenock, in the 74th year of her age, Mrs Clark, relict of Mr John Clark, merchant.

At Calcutta, in June laſt, Mr John Wilſon, merchant, late of Glaſgow.

At Fort Haldane, Jamaica, on the 28th Sept. laſt, Lieutenant Thomas Ponton, ſon of Mr Alexander Ponton, architect in Edinburgh.

At Kingſton, Jamaica, on the 4th of Nov. in the 21ſt year of his age, Mr John Hamilton, eldeſt ſon of John Hamilton, Eſq Lord Provoſt of Glaſgow.

1801, *Jan.* 4 Mr Hugh Muir, late merchant in Liverpool.

7. Mrs Pitcairn, widow of the late Rev. Mr Joſeph Pitcairn, miniſter of Carnbee, at St Andrews.

—. At Carberry Houſe, Mrs Elizabeth Coult, widow of John Fullerton, Eſq. of Carberry.

8. Rev. Mr Donald M'Intoſh, miniſter of the pariſh of Gairloch, in the 67th year of his age, and 43d of his miniſtry.

—. At Glaſgow, Miſs Helen M'Aliſter, daughter of the late Baillie John M'Aliſter of Ronnachan.

9. At her houſe in Queen Street, Mrs Margaret Hamilton, widow of the late John Weſt, Eſq. one of the Commiſſioners for Scotland.

—. At Perth. Mrs Conner, wife of Ambroſe Conner, M.D.

10. At Duddingſton, David Dundas Eſq. of Duddingſton Houſe.

Jan. 11. At Edinburgh, at an advanced age, Mr Anthony Woodhead, Prefes of the Society of Solicitors-at-law.

12. At Montrofe, in the 77th year of his age, Mr Aaron Lithgow, late Schoolmafter of that place.

12. Mr Robert Kerr, when attempting to take a fmall fifhing boat belonging to him, in the Burn at Innerkip, fhe overfet, and he was unfortunately drowned.

13. At Kirkhill, Dr Alexander Fraſer, miniſter of that pariſh, in the 50th year of his age, and 29th of his miniſtry. His ardour in the duties of his profeſſion endeared him to his pariſhioners; and his publications, to illuſtrate the Prophetical Books of Scripture, have given him a reſpectable literary name.

14. Mrs Buchanan, relict of Mr Robert Buchanan, late writer in Glaſgow.

—. Miſs Anne Campbell, daughter of the late John Campbell, in Strone, Eſq. brother of the deceaſed Colin Campbell, of Strachur, Eſq at Ormidale, in Argyleſhire.

—. Mr Charles Livingſton, writer in Edinburgh.

15. At Boroughmuirhead, Mr Hugh Buchan, late Chamberlain of the city of Edinburgh.

—. At Greenock, John Wright, Eſq. Collector of Exciſe.

16. At Broughton, at a very advanced age, Robert Thomſon, a Couſin of our immortal Scottiſh Bard, the Author of the Seaſons, &c.

—. At Aberdeen, Mrs Dr Skene.

17. At Stirling, Mrs Elizabeth Wright, ſpouſe of Mr Thomas Wright, merchant.

—. At Viewfield, near Edinburgh, Mr James Gordon, Brewer.

18. At Brachead, in the 97th year of her age, Mrs Elizabeth Crawfurd, relict of the deceaſed John Houiſon, Eſq. of Brachead.

—. At Stirling, Mr Charles Young, writer to the ſignet.

19. At Paiſley, Mrs Ferrier, ſpouſe of the Rev. William Ferrier.

At her houſe in Prince's Street, the Right Hon. Mary Clara Lady Elibank.

21. At his houſe in Antigua-ſtreet, Mr William Field, Coach-maker.

—. Suddenly, in the 79th year of his age, George Anderſon, Eſq. merchant in Glaſgow.

—. John Murdoch Campbell, Eſq. ſecond ſon of John Campbell, ſen. Eſq. merchant in Glaſgow.

22. At Glaſgow, Mr Archibald Calder.

23. At the Manſe of Dairy, the Rev. John Fullerton, in the 65th year of his age, and 42d of his miniſtry.

24. At Ayr, Mr Archibald Hume, tallow-chandler.

—. In the 79th year of her age, in conſequence of a mortification occaſioned by her cloathes accidentally taking fire, Lady Jane Courtenay, Aunt to the Marquis of Bute.

Jan. 24. Mr Fr. Armſtrong, merchant in Edinburgh, in the 79th year of his age.

25. At Peterhead, at an advanced age, Mr Robert Dunbar, factor to the late Mr Garden of Troup.

—. Mr David Lindſay, merchant in Edinburgh.

26. At Dumbarton, Mrs Colquhoun of Barnhill, in the 84th year of her age.

27. At Little Knox, Mrs Cannon, wife of Mr John Cannon of Little Knox.

28. Mr Young of Abchurch-lane, London. He had gone to bed in good health, and died in the courſe of the night.

—. At Edinburgh, Mrs Jean Ormiſton.

—. After a lingering and painful illneſs, at his houſe in Ely-Place, Dublin, the Right Hon. John Fitzgibbon, Earl of Clare, Lord High Chancellor of Ireland.

29. At Glaſgow, James Jameſon, Eſq. Comptroller of the Cuſtoms.

30. At Glaſgow, Mr James Monach, late writing-maſter.

—. At Edinburgh, Mr George Mac-Laurin, writer, ſecond ſon of the late Lord Dreghorn.

31. At Stonehaven, James Abercromby, Eſq. of Belfield.

Feb. 1. At St. Andrews, Mrs Croſſe, widow of the late Robert Creſſe of Barrachnie, Eſq.

2. Kenneth Callander, M. D. youngeſt ſon of the late John Callander, Eſq. of Craigforth.

3. At Ayr, Lady Hamilton, widow of the late Sir Henry Hamilton, Baronet, of Caſtle Cuningham, in the county of Donegal, Ireland.

—Alexander Garioch, Eſq. merchant in Aberdeen.

4. Miſs Jeſſy Campbell of Barmoltach, in Argyleſhire.

6. At Perth, James Duncan, Eſq. of Tippermalloch.

7. At Glaſgow, Mr Archibald Elbeck, ſeal engraver.

8. At Edinburgh, Miſs Grace Bogle.

—. At Perth, Hugh Fraſer, Eſq. Captain and Adjutant of the North Lowland Fencibles.

9. At Maybole, Mr William M'Limont, writer.

—. At Glaſgow, Mrs Colquhoun, ſpouſe of Mr Humphrey Colquhoun, merchant.

10. At Clifton, near Briſtol, Mrs M'Lean of Coll.

11. At London, Lieut. James M'Harg, of the 67th regiment, ſon of the deceaſed Mr Anthony M'Harg, writer in Ayr.

—. At Blairhall, Mrs Ann Ranaldſon, widow of Andrew Ranaldſon, Eſq. of Blairhall.